



# 50



In this July 20, 1969 photo made available by NASA, astronaut Buzz Aldrin, lunar module pilot, walks on the surface of the moon during the Apollo 11 extravehicular activity.

Associated Press



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# Plan to slow Western wildfires would clear strips of land

By **BRADY McCOMBS**  
Associated Press

**SALT LAKE CITY (AP)** — The Trump administration is proposing an ambitious plan to slow Western wildfires by bulldozing, mowing or revegetating large swaths of land along 11,000 miles (17,700 kilometers) of terrain in the West.

The plan that was announced this summer and presented at public open houses, including one in Salt Lake City this week, would create strips of land known "fuel breaks" on about 1,000 square miles of land (2,700 square kilometers) managed by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management in an area known as the Great Basin in parts of Idaho, Oregon, Washington, California, Nevada and Utah.

The estimated cost would be about \$55 million to \$192 million, a wide range that illustrates the variance in costs for the different

types of fuel breaks. Some would completely clear lands, others would mow down vegetation and a third method would replant the area with more fire-resistance vegetation.

It would cost another \$18 million to \$107 million each year to maintain the strips and ensure vegetation doesn't regrow on the strips of land.

Wildfire experts say the program could help slow fires, but it won't help in the most extreme fires that can jump these strips of land. The breaks could also fragment wildlife habitat.

An environmental group calls it an ill-conceived and expensive plan that has no scientific backing to show it will work.

A U.S. Geological Survey report issued last year found that fuel breaks could be an important tool to reduce damage caused by wildfires, but the agency cautioned that no scientific



In this July 30, 2018, file photo, firefighters control the Tollgate Canyon fire as it burns near Wanship, Utah.

Associated Press

studies have been done to prove their effectiveness and that they could alter habitat for sagebrush plants and animal communities.

The Bureau of Land Management says it has done about 1,200 assessments of fuel breaks since 2002 and found they help control fires about 80 percent of the time.

The strips of land that would be 500 feet or less would be created along highways, rural roads and other areas already disturbed such as right of ways for pipelines, said Marlo Draper, the Bureau of Land Management's supervisory project manager for the Idaho Great Basin team.

They won't prevent fires, but they should reduce the costs of having to battle major blazes because fuel breaks reduce the intensity, flame length and spread of fires and keep firefighters safe, Draper said.

It cost about \$373 million over the last decade to fight 21 fires that were larger than 156 square miles (404 square kilometers) on lands managed by the bureau in Utah, Nevada and Idaho, according to a report explaining the proposal.

"It gives us a chance to get in front of it and put fires out more quickly," Draper said. Western wildfires have grown more lethal because of extreme drought and heat associated with

climate change and by housing developments encroaching on the most fire-prone grasslands and brushy canyons. Many of the ranchers and farmers who once managed those landscapes are gone, leaving terrain thick with vegetation that can explode into flames.

The proposal is out for public comment and pending environmental review. If approved, some of the land could be cleared as soon as next year while other projects could take several years, she said. The plan comes after President Trump last December issued an executive order last December calling on the Interior Department to prioritize reducing wildfire risks on public lands.

This proposal doesn't include U.S. National Forest Service lands. Most states have their own separate plans for fire prevention, which sometimes include thinning of forests.

These fuel breaks are a useful tool if used along with other wildfire prevention methods that can keep firefighters safer and potentially help out in broad scopes of land because they are long and thin, said Lenya Quinn-Davidson, the area fire adviser for University of California Cooperative Extension. They can especially be helpful by providing perimeters for prescribed burns. But they must be in

the right places and don't stop fires, she said.

David Peterson, an ecology professor at the University of Washington and former federal research scientist, said the plan will likely produce mixed success slowing down fires. But Peterson said the plan will not help with extreme fires that produce embers and flames that jump over these fire breaks. He said the risk of fragmenting important habitat and harming animals like sage grouse is real. The U.S. government must also be committed to the chore of maintaining the areas or the plan won't help and could open the door for more cheat grass to grow in, which fuels fires. "We are buying into a long-term commitment of funding," Peterson said.

Patrick Donnelly, the Center for Biological Diversity's Nevada state director, said the plan could break up habitat for sage grouse, deer and the Pygmy rabbit. He said the money would be better spent planting native seed and sagebrush to get rid of non-native plants that make fires worst. "This seems like the Interior is trying to demonstrate they are doing something, and they want something that is impressive to people, like: 'Look at us, we've bulldozed 11,000 miles of desert,'" Donnelly said. "Ultimately, this is a misguided effort." □

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# Apollo 11 astronauts reunite on 50th anniversary of moonshot

By MARCIA DUNN

AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)

— Apollo 11 astronauts Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins reunited Friday on the eve of the 50th anniversary of humanity's first moon landing.

They gathered in the Oval Office with President Donald Trump, who got a run-down on his administration's plans to get astronauts back on the moon by 2024 and then on to Mars in the 2030s.

"We're bringing the glamour back" to the space program, Trump said.

Both sons of the late Neil Armstrong, the first man to step onto the moon on July 20, 1969, also attended, as well as first lady Melania Trump, Vice President Mike Pence and NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine.

The moon versus Mars debate as astronauts' next destination arose again Friday.

The president asked if astronauts could get to Mars without first going back to the moon.

Collins, 88, who circled the moon alone in the command module while Armstrong and Aldrin descended in the Eagle, told the president that he supports going directly to Mars and bypassing the moon.

"It seems to me Mars direct, who knows better than these people?" Trump noted.

Bridenstine, though, stressed the importance of the moon as a training ground and noted that because of the planetary

alignment, launches to Mars can occur only every 26 months and even then the trip is seven months each way.

"What happens if you miss the timing? They're in deep trouble? Trump asked. "You don't want to be on that ship."

Aldrin, meanwhile, said he's disappointed with the state of human space exploration the past 10 or 15 years. "We were able to achieve so much early," the 89-year-old said.

Aldrin, whose specialty was orbital rendezvous, doesn't like NASA's idea for a small space station around the moon, called the Gateway, from which to stage lunar landings and, eventually, Mars trips. He noted that the Apollo 11 command module and attached lunar module went straight into lunar orbit and even separated and redocked around the moon.

"We have the No. 1 rocket right now in the U.S. and we have the No. 1 spacecraft, and they cannot get into lunar orbit with significant maneuvering capability," Aldrin pointed out.

Trump directed Bridenstine to listen to the "other side." Aldrin and Armstrong, who died in 2012, landed on the Sea of Tranquility at 4:17 p.m. on July 20, 1969. "Houston, Tranquility Base here. The Eagle has landed," Armstrong radioed.

Armstrong was the first to climb down the ladder, stepping onto the lunar surface at 10:56 p.m. His "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind," is



President Donald Trump, accompanied by Apollo 11 astronauts Michael Collins, left, and Buzz Aldrin, right, and Eric "Rick" Armstrong, son of Neil Armstrong, second from left, with Vice President Mike Pence and first lady Melania Trump, speaks during a photo opportunity commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing, in the Oval Office of the White House, Friday, July 19, 2019, in Washington.

Associated Press

arguably the most famous space line of all time.

The vice president is commemorating Saturday's anniversary at Florida's Kennedy Space Center, visiting the launch pad where Apollo 11 blasted off.

Museums and towns across the country geared up for their own golden anniversary celebrations, including Wapakoneta, Ohio, Armstrong's hometown that was serving up "cinnamoon pancakes" and "buckeye on the moon sundaes." The U.S. Postal Service, meanwhile, issued its "1969: First Moon Landing" Forever stamps Friday at Kennedy.

NASA televised a two-hour show Friday afternoon remembering Apollo 11 but

also looking forward to its future moon plans. At the end of the program, Bridenstine revealed the new logo for the moon program, called Artemis after the twin sister of Greek mythology's Apollo.

Besides Wapakoneta and Kennedy, the program went live to Johnson Space Center in Houston, home to Mission Control; the U.S. Space and Rocket Center next door to Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama; and the National Air and Space Museum in Washington.

In Houston, Apollo 7 astronaut Walter Cunningham said the moon landings will be remembered hundreds of years from now and

Armstrong, in particular, will go down in history.

"Here we are 50 years later, and I never in my life could have projected this amount of interest and association with what we were doing back then," Cunningham said.

In Wapakoneta, former astronaut Don Thomas recalled how he invited fellow Ohioan Armstrong to one of his four space shuttle launches in the 1990s. Not only did Armstrong show up, Thomas said the moonwalker met with him the day before liftoff and promised to stick around as long as it took the shuttle to fly. "It was the thrill of my life to have him there for the launch," Thomas said. □

## Officials: U.S. putting troops back in Saudi Arabia

By ROBERT BURNS

AP National Security Writer

WASHINGTON (AP)

— With Iranian military threats in mind, the United States is sending American forces, including fighter aircraft, air defense missiles and likely more than 500 troops, to a Saudi air base that became a hub of American air power in the Middle East in the 1990s but was abandoned by Washington after it toppled Iraqi strongman

Saddam Hussein in 2003.

The Saudi Foreign Ministry announced Friday without mentioning details.

Senior American defense officials said some U.S. troops and Patriot air defense missile systems have already arrived at Prince Sultan Air Base, south of Riyadh, where the troops have been preparing for the arrival of aircraft later this summer as well as ad-

ditional troops. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity in order to provide details not publicly announced.

The agreement has been in the works for many weeks and is not a response specifically to Friday's seizure by Iran of a British tanker in the Persian Gulf. Tensions with Iran have spiked since May when the Trump administration said it had detected increased Iranian

preparations for possible attacks on U.S. forces and interests in the Gulf area.

In a written statement Friday evening, U.S. Central Command said the deployments to Saudi Arabia had been approved by the Pentagon.

But it also introduces a political and diplomatic complication for the Trump administration, accused by critics of coddling the Saudis even after the mur-

der last fall of dissident writer Jamal Khashoggi by Saudi agents. Many in Congress now question the decades-old U.S.-Saudi security alliance and oppose major new arms sales to the kingdom. Starting with the January 1991 air war against Iraq after its invasion of Kuwait the previous summer, the U.S. flew a wide range of aircraft from Prince Sultan air base, originally known as al-Kharj. □



# Labor nominee Scalia has long record of opposing regulations

By MARK SHERMAN, KEVIN FREKING and JILL COLVIN  
 Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Eugene Scalia has a decades-long record of challenging Labor Department and other federal regulations, as well as a famous last name. The combination proved irresistible to President Donald Trump.

Trump selected Scalia Thursday to be his new labor secretary. If formally nominated and confirmed, he'll join an administration that has moved aggressively to reverse regulations and work under a president who had repeatedly lauded Scalia's late father, Justice Antonin Scalia.

The president announced the news on Twitter less than a week after his previous secretary, Alexander Acosta, said he would resign amid renewed criticism of how, as a federal prosecutor, he handled a 2008 secret plea deal with wealthy financier Jeffrey Epstein. The financier was indicted this month on charges of sexually abusing underage girls and pleaded not guilty.

Friday was Acosta's last day on the job. His deputy, Patrick Pizzella, will serve as acting secretary until Scalia is confirmed.

"Gene has led a life of great success in the legal and labor field and is highly respected not only as a lawyer, but as a lawyer with great experience" working "with labor and everyone else," Trump wrote.

Scalia, 55, served for a year as the Labor Department's top lawyer, its solicitor, during the George W. Bush administration. But most of his career has been spent as a partner in the Washington office of the Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher firm, where he has run up a string of victories in court cases on behalf of business interests challenging labor and financial regulations. "Suing the Government? Call Scalia!" was the headline on a 2012 profile by Bloomberg.

His most prominent labor case helped undo an Obama-era rule to put stricter requirements on



In this Feb. 28, 2017, file photo, Maureen McCarthy Scalia, widow of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, is recognized by President Donald Trump as her son Eugene Scalia, top left, applauds, during his address to a joint session of Congress on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Associated Press

professionals who advise retirement savers on investments. He also criticized a Clinton-era rule to protect workers from repetitive stress injuries that was ultimately repealed early in the Bush administration. Scalia defended Boeing from a labor union lawsuit and fought on behalf of Wal-Mart against a Maryland law aimed at improving workers' health care. Scalia represented the Chamber of Commerce opposing rules requiring mutual fund companies to put independent overseers on their boards of directors, and insurance companies challenging the SEC's authority to regulate certain annuities with values tied to stocks. Annuities are a sort of hybrid of insurance and investments.

In 2016, he successfully argued for removal of a des-

ignation given to insurance giant MetLife by federal regulators that would have brought stricter government oversight. The process of regulators selecting certain large financial companies as "systemically important financial institutions" deemed "too big to fail" was mandated under the 2010 Dodd-Frank Act that overhauled regulation of Wall Street and the banking industry in the wake of the financial crisis.

Scalia's record drew unqualified praise from the chamber. "He is whip smart and knows the Department's mission and operations well from prior service as solicitor," said Glenn Spencer, a senior vice president.

The American Securities Association, a trade association representing investment banks, financial

advisers, and wealth managers called Scalia a "fantastic pick."

Labor and consumer advocates were pessimistic that Scalia would serve their clients' interest.

"It's difficult to see how the lawyer who aggressively represented clients against one of the most important retiree protections rules of the Department of Labor in many, many decades is somehow going to flip 180 degrees and become somebody who effectively protects worker and retiree interests," said Dennis Kelleher, president of Better Markets, a financial industry and government watchdog.

Mary Kay Henry, president of the Service Employees International Union, urged the Senate to reject Scalia. "The last thing working people need is another Secre-

tary of Labor who sides with corporate CEOs instead of hard-working Americans and makes it harder to join together in unions," Henry said on Twitter.

If Trump was attracted to Scalia's record, he also has made no secret of his fondness for the Scalia family.

Eugene Scalia accompanied his mother to Trump's first speech to a joint session of Congress in February 2017, where they sat in a box for the president's guests. She received a standing ovation when Trump introduced her. Maureen Scalia also was on hand at the White House when Trump announced both of his Supreme Court nominees, Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh.

During the presidential campaign, Trump repeatedly praised the justice, who died in February 2016, and said, "I am looking to appoint judges very much in the mold of Justice Scalia." Last year, Trump posthumously awarded the justice a Presidential Medal of Freedom, and Maureen Scalia was again at the White House to receive it. He remarked how Maureen Scalia had become a great friend to the Trump family and himself.

When Bush nominated Eugene Scalia as the Labor Department solicitor, unions howled in protest and Senate Democrats refused to hold a confirmation vote. Bush gave him a temporary, recess appointment to the job.

Even with strong Democratic opposition again, he has a clear path to confirmation in a Senate controlled by Republicans and stripped of the procedural requirement that nominees need 60 votes to proceed. He would be reunited in Trump's Cabinet with two former bosses. Elaine Chao, now the transportation secretary, was head of the Labor Department when Scalia worked there. For a time he was special assistant to Attorney General William Barr, during Barr's first stint in charge of the Justice Department in the early 1990s. □





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## Berkeley drops words like 'manpower' in push to be inclusive

By OLGA R. RODRIGUEZ and SAMANTHA MALDONADO  
Associated Press

BERKELEY, Calif. (AP) —

There will be no manholes in Berkeley, California. City workers will drop into "main-tenance holes" instead.

Nothing will be manmade in the liberal city but "human-made." And students at the University of California, Berkeley, will join "collegiate Greek system residences" rather than fraternities and sororities.

Berkeley leaders voted unanimously this week to replace about 40 gender-specific words in the city code with gender-neutral terms — an effort to be more inclusive that's drawing both praise and scorn. That means "manpower" will become "human effort" or "workforce," while masculine and feminine pronouns like "she," "her," "he" and "him" will be replaced by "they" and "them," according to the measure approved Tuesday by the City Council.

The San Francisco Bay Area city is known for its long history of progressive politics and "first of" ordinances. Berkeley was among the first cities to adopt curbside recycling in the 1970s and

more recently, became the first in the U.S. to tax sugary drinks and ban natural gas in new homes.

Berkeley also was the birthplace of the nation's free-speech movement in the 1960s and where protests from both left- and right-wing extremist groups devolved into violence during a flashpoint in the country's political divisions soon after President Donald Trump's election.

Rigel Robinson, who graduated from UC Berkeley last year and at 23 is the youngest member of the City Council, said it was time to change a municipal code that makes it sound like "men are the only ones that exist in entire industries or that men are the only ones on city government."

"As society and our cultures become more aware about issues of gender identity and gender expression, it's important that our laws reflect that," said Robinson, who co-authored the measure.

"Women and non-binary people are just as deserving of accurate representation."

When the changes take effect in the fall, all city forms will be updated and lists

with the old words and their replacements will be posted at public libraries and the council chambers. The changes will cost taxpayers \$600, Robinson said.

Removing gendered terms has been slowly happening for decades in the United States as colleges, companies and organizations implement gender-neutral alternatives.

California Gov. Gavin Newsom's wife, Jennifer Siebel Newsom, changed a Sacramento political tradition by adopting the unofficial title "first partner" instead of "first lady," saying it's more inclusive. The change reflected Siebel Newsom's experience as an actress and filmmaker focused on gender politics and inequality.

But formalizing the shift in the sweeping way that Berkeley is doing is "remarkable and sends a message," Rutgers University linguistics professor Kristen Syrett said.

"Anytime you're talking about something where gender is not the issue but you use a gendered term, that immediately sends a message of exclusion, even if it's a dialogue that has nothing to do with gender,"



Pedestrians walk past a manhole cover for a sewer in Berkeley, Calif., Thursday, July 18, 2019.

Associated Press

said Syrett, who recently spearheaded an update to the guidelines on inclusive language for the Linguistic Society of America. For Hel Baker, a Berkeley home caregiver, the shift is a small step in the right direction.

"Anything that dismantles inherent bias is a good thing, socially, in the grand scheme of things," the 27-year-old said.

"I don't, by any means, think this is the great championing for gender equality, but you gotta start somewhere," Baker added.

Lauren Singh, 18, who grew up in Berkeley, approved of the move, saying, "Everyone deserves to be repre-

sented and feel included in the community."

Not everyone agreed with the new ordinance. Laramie Crocker, a Berkeley carpenter, said the changes just made him laugh.

"If you try to change the laws every time someone has a new opinion about something, it doesn't make sense. It's just a bad habit to get into," Crocker said.

Crocker, 54, said he would like city officials to focus on more pressing issues, like homelessness.

"Let's keep it simple, get back to work," he said.

"Let's figure out how to get homeless people housed and fed. He, she, they, it — they're wasting my time." □

## Service resuming after 7 New York City subway lines stopped

NEW YORK (AP) — About a third of New York City's subway lines were suspended for more than an hour during a busy, hot Friday evening commute, stranding some passengers underground and sending others searching for other ways home.

The stoppage affected the No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 trains that serve swaths of Manhattan, the Bronx and

Brooklyn. It also halted the S shuttle train that links Grand Central Terminal and Times Square — two of the city's busiest stations. The Metropolitan Transportation Authority warned that there would still be "extensive delays" in the system, which serves more than 5 million people per day, even after service began to resume Friday night. It blamed the suspension on a network

communications problem. The temperature was still 91 degrees Fahrenheit (33 degrees Celsius) on Friday evening when the stoppage happened, though meteorologists estimated that it felt like 100 degrees, leaving riders sweating in stopped trains with doors closed. The breakdown came as the city gears up for scorching temperatures throughout the weekend. □



A New York City subway train slowly arrives at a station near the World Trade Center, Friday, July 19, 2019 in New York.

Associated Press



# U.S. to send asylum seekers back to dangerous part of Mexico



In this Nov. 2, 2018, file photo, Yenly Morales, left, and Yenly Herrera, right, immigrants from Cuba seeking asylum in the United States, wait on the Brownsville and Matamoros International Bridge in Matamoros, Mexico.

Associated Press

By NOMAAN MERCHANT

Associated Press

**HOUSTON (AP)** — The U.S. government on Friday expanded its requirement that asylum seekers wait outside the country to a part of the Texas Rio Grande Valley across from one of Mexico's most dangerous cities.

The Department of Homeland Security said that it would implement its Migrant Protection Protocols in Brownsville, Texas, across the border from Matamoros, Mexico. DHS says it anticipates the first asylum seekers will be sent back to Mexico starting Friday.

Under the so-called "Re-

main in Mexico" policy, asylum seekers are briefly processed and given a date to return for an immigration court hearing before being sent back across the southern border. Since January, the policy has been implemented at several border cities including San Diego and El Paso, Texas. At least 18,000 migrants have been sent back to Mexico under the policy, according to Mexico's National Migration Institute.

The U.S. is trying to curtail the large flow of Central American migrants passing through Mexico to seek asylum under American law. The busiest corridor for unauthorized border crossings is the Rio Grande Valley, at Texas' southernmost point. Other cities in the region were not immediately included in the expansion. The policy announcement came as groups of lawmakers visited the region Friday to examine detention facilities operated by the U.S. Border Patrol, including the processing center in McAllen, Texas, where hundreds of adults and children are detained in fenced-in pens.

Standing outside the processing center, Sen. Jeff

Merkley of Oregon criticized conditions inside the facilities and other Trump administration programs cracking down on asylum seekers.

"We want them treated with dignity and respect as we would want our family members to be treated," Merkley said.

U.S. Rep. Nanette Barragán, a California Democrat, tweeted that while visiting the processing center, she encountered a 13-year-old girl who was a U.S. citizen and had her passport with her. The girl was held with her mother despite the facility being designed for immigrants in the U.S. without legal permission, not citizens, Barragán said.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection did not respond to requests for comment on the family's case. A spokeswoman for Barragán said her office was notified that the girl was released a few hours later, but the mother's status was unclear.

DHS said it had coordinated with the Mexican government to expand its "Remain" policy. The Mexican government did not immediately respond to requests for comment. But the Trump administration

has pressured Mexico to crack down on migrants, threatening earlier this year to impose crippling tariffs until both sides agreed on new measures targeting migration.

Matamoros is at the eastern edge of the U.S.-Mexico border in Tamaulipas state, where organized crime gangs are dominant and the U.S. government warns citizens not to visit due to violence and kidnappings. The city is also near where a Salvadoran father and his 23-month-old daughter were found drowned in the Rio Grande, in photos that were shared around the world.

Many people have slept for the last several months in a makeshift camp near one of the international bridges, including families with young children. Thousands more stay in hotels, shelters, or boarding houses. Only a few migrants daily have been allowed to seek asylum under another Trump administration policy limiting asylum processing known as "metering."

A list run by Mexican officials has more than 1,000 people on it, said Elisa Filippone, a U.S.-based volunteer who visits Matamoros

several times a week to deliver food and donated clothes. But many others not on the list wait in shelters. There are frequent rumors that migrants are shaken down for bribes to join the list, Filippone said.

She described a desperate situation that could be made worse if people are forced to wait longer in Mexico for their asylum claims to be processed.

"I'm afraid that Matamoros is about to catch on fire," she said.

Filippone said Friday that she saw the camp closest to one of the bridges being cleared away, though it was not immediately clear why or where the people detained would go.

DHS recently implemented the "Remain" policy for migrants in Nuevo Laredo, across from Laredo, Texas. About 1,800 asylum seekers and migrants are currently waiting in Nuevo Laredo, where some have reported being kidnapped and extorted by gangs.

"I don't want to go out on the street. I'm afraid the same men ... will do something to me or my boys," said one woman, insisting on speaking anonymously out of fear for their safety.

People in Nuevo Laredo were told to return in September for U.S. court dates. At other points of the border, wait times have stretched to several months. Unlike in criminal court, the U.S. government does not have to provide lawyers to people in the immigration court system. Attorneys in South Texas have long questioned where they could meet with potential clients in Tamaulipas. Many migrants who get to the U.S. have exhausted all their resources by the time they arrive, said Lisa Brodyaga, an attorney who has represented asylum seekers for decades.

"It would be extremely difficult for them to find attorneys who would have the time and the ability and the willingness to expose themselves to what's going in Matamoros," she said. "I'm not sure how it's going to work." □





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## Parents told they could lose kids over unpaid school lunches

**KINGSTON, Pa. (AP)** — A Pennsylvania school district is warning that children could end up in foster care if their parents do not pay overdue school lunch bills. The letters sent recently to about 1,000 parents in Wyoming Valley West School District have led to complaints from parents and a stern rebuke from Luzerne County child welfare authorities.

The district says that it is trying to collect more than \$20,000, and that other methods to get parents to pay have not been successful. Four parents owe at least \$450 apiece.

The letter claims the unpaid bills could lead to dependency hearings and removal of their children for not providing them with food.

"You can be sent to dependency court for neglecting your child's right to food. The result may be your child being taken from your home and placed in foster care," the letter read.

After complaints, district officials announced they plan to send out a less threatening letter next week. Luzerne County's manager and child welfare agency director have written the superintendent, insisting the district stop making what they call false claims.

Their letter calls the district's actions troubling and a misrepresentation of how the Children and Youth Services Department and its foster care program operate.

Wyoming Valley West's lawyer, Charles Coslett, said he did not consider the letters to be threatening.

"Hopefully, that gets their attention and it certainly did, didn't it? I mean, if you think about it, you're here this morning because some parents cried foul because he or she doesn't want to pay a debt attributed to feeding their kids. How shameful," Coslett told WYOU-TV.

The district's federal programs director, Joseph Muth, told WNEP-TV the district had considered serving peanut butter and jelly sandwiches to students with delinquent accounts, but received legal advice warning against it.

School district officials say they plan to pursue other legal avenues to get the lunch money, such as filing a district court complaint or placing liens on properties. For the coming year, the district will qualify for funding to provide free lunches to all students.

The district underwrote free lunches for four elementary and middle schools during the 2018-19 year, and WNEP-TV said school officials suspect some parents did not pay their lunch bills as a form of protest. □

## U.S. judge denies bail for ex-Peruvian president Toledo

By DAISY NGUYEN

Associated Press

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — A U.S. judge on Friday denied bail for former Peruvian President Alejandro Toledo after prosecutors argued that he was a flight risk and pointed out officials found a suitcase with \$40,000 in cash during his arrest.

"If the defendant were to flee, this would be a diplomatically significant failure of the United States to live up to its obligations to Peru under the (extradition) treaty," Magistrate Judge Thomas S. Hixson said before ordering Toledo, 73, held pending an extradition hearing scheduled for July 26.

U.S. Marshals detained Toledo at his Northern California home Tuesday on an extradition request.

The ex-president is wanted in his home country on accusations of taking \$20 million in bribes from Brazilian construction company Odebrecht.

Toledo denies the charges. Assistant U.S. Attorney Elise LaPunzina told Hixson that the cash and the fact that Toledo has ties to other counties made him a flight risk. She said his wife, former Peruvian first lady Eliane Karp, is from Israel, a country that does not have an extradition agreement with Peru.

Toledo's attorney, Joseph Russoniello, argued for the former president to be released on bail, saying he has deep ties to the San



In this May 24, 2017 file photo, Peru's former President Alejandro Toledo addresses the New Economy Forum Globalization Dialogues at the United Nations in New York.

Associated Press

Francisco Bay Area, where he came in the late 1960's to study economics.

Russoniello said the cash was his wife's money, and it was being used to pay for the couple's expenses.

Karp declined to comment after the hearing, saying only the word "liars" in Spanish as she walked out of the courtroom.

Toledo was Peru's president from 2001 to 2006 and has lived in California in recent years, defying orders from his country's courts to return to Peru to face charges.

He had been a visiting scholar at Stanford University as recently as 2017, though the school has said it was an unpaid position. He earned a doctoral degree in education and

two master's degrees from the university. In March, he was arrested in Menlo Park on suspicion of public drunkenness at a restaurant but was released without charges. Odebrecht in 2016 acknowledged in a plea agreement with the U.S. Justice Department to paying \$800 million to officials throughout Latin America in exchange for lucrative public works contracts. The scandal also has tainted the careers of other former presidents in Peru who are under investigation for ties to Odebrecht. In April, former President Alan García killed himself with a gunshot to the head as officers waited to arrest him on corruption charges. □



# UK lawmakers warn citizens' rights at risk in no-deal Brexit

**Associated Press**

**BRUSSELS (AP)** — British lawmakers met the European Union's chief Brexit negotiator on Friday, seeking an iron-clad guarantee that the 1.3 million U.K. citizens in the bloc won't have their rights removed and their lives disrupted if Britain leaves the EU without a deal.

The rights of U.K. citizens living in the 27 other EU nations, and those of the more than 3 million EU citizens in Britain, are one of the thorniest issues of the Brexit negotiations.

Their rights to live, work and study are protected under an agreement struck between the two sides — but the divorce agreement has been rejected by Britain's Parliament, raising the prospect of a no-deal Brexit.

The U.K. is due to leave the bloc on Oct. 31, and both men vying to take over as prime minister next week, Boris Johnson and Jeremy Hunt, say it's imperative that Brexit happens, with or



British lawmaker Layla Moran, second right, along with a cross-party delegation of British parliamentarians talk to journalists after meeting European Union chief Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier at the European Commission headquarters in Brussels, Friday, July 19, 2019.

**Associated Press**

without a deal.

Conservative lawmaker Alberto Costa, who led the cross-party delegation that met EU negotiator Michel Barnier in Brussels, said "if there's no agreement, there's no protection."

"British nationals will potentially lose access to pension

entitlement, lose access to health care entitlement, lose access to welfare entitlement and a whole gamut of other issues," he said.

Talks between the British government and the EU on guaranteeing citizens' rights if the U.K. crashes out of the bloc have failed to

produce a breakthrough. EU leaders insist the withdrawal agreement can't be chopped into chunks — Britain must accept all of it or none.

Some EU member states have said they will preserve Britons' rights, but only if the U.K. reciprocates. Britain

says all EU citizens living in the country can stay, but has not enshrined that right in law.

"People assume it's fine, everything's dandy. citizens' rights, of course they're going to protect them, that goes without saying," Costa said. "But we have no extraterritorial powers to pass legislation to protect British citizens in the EU. That can only be done with an agreement with the EU."

The winner of the contest to become Britain's next prime minister — widely expected to be Johnson — is due to be announced Tuesday.

Costa said whoever wins must ensure citizens' rights are upheld even if there is no Brexit deal.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel on Friday reiterated the EU's long-held stance that it will not renegotiate the divorce agreement it struck with outgoing British Prime Minister Theresa May. "The withdrawal agreement is the withdrawal agreement," she said. □

# Merkel defends German climate moves as rally urges action

**By GEIR MOULSON**

**Associated Press**

**BERLIN (AP)** — German Chancellor Angela Merkel defended her government's efforts to combat climate change on Friday, promising that her Cabinet will make "decisive" moves in September.

As Swedish teen activist Greta Thunberg joined thousands of young protesters in Berlin to urge policymakers to redouble efforts to combat climate change, Merkel said her government will decide Sept. 20 on such matters as whether and how to put a price on carbon emissions. The package, she told her annual summer news conference, "must be very well thought through."

Merkel's "climate Cabinet" of senior officials held an inconclusive meeting on Thursday as the governing coalition wrangles over what measures to introduce.

Germany aims to cut greenhouse gas emissions



German Chancellor Angela Merkel, right, smiles as she arrives for her annual summer press conference in Berlin, Germany, Friday, July 19, 2019.

**Associated Press**

by 55% by 2030 compared with 1990.

The environment minister called recently for carbon taxes that could be used at least in part to financially boost low-income households, but there has been pushback from Germany's powerful auto lobby and

lawmakers representing rural regions, where many rely on cars to commute to work.

Several blocks away, speakers at a rally attended by Thunberg underlined the need for urgency in combating climate change.

Thunberg told the cheering crowd that adults haven't taken responsibility for the climate crisis and young people have had to take to the streets around the world — sometimes skipping school — in the Fridays for Future rallies.

"I will never give up and I

hope that you will not either because this is a question of life or death," she pledged.

Merkel said Thunberg and her fellow protesters "have certainly pushed us to speed up."

"The seriousness with which Greta, but also many, many young people, are pointing out to us that this is about their lives ... has certainly prompted us to approach the matter more purposefully," she added. But she also argued that decisions that will have far-reaching implications can't be rushed.

"Sept. 20 will be a very decisive day, and I think we can tell the students that we are working under high pressure," Merkel said. "But we are also taking new directions, and these new directions must of course be thought through so that we really know what we are doing and how we are doing it, and so we are reasonably certain that we will reach our goals." □



# Kosovo PM resigns following Hague war crimes court summons

By FLORENT BAJRAMI  
LLAZAR SEMINI

**PRISTINA, Kosovo (AP)** — Kosovo's prime minister resigned Friday after being invited for questioning by a Hague-based court investigating crimes against ethnic Serbs during and after the country's 1998-99 war. Ramush Haradinaj said he agreed to be interviewed at the Kosovo Specialist Chambers next week and didn't want to appear there as prime minister. However, he said he and his Cabinet would continue running the country until a new prime minister is chosen.

"I considered that I cannot go to the questioning as head of the government," Haradinaj said at a news conference.

Haradinaj urged Kosovar President Hashim Thaci to call an early parliamentary election and said he would be a candidate in hopes of regaining office. He said the special court summoned him as a suspect but also told reporters he



In this Friday, Dec. 3, 2004 file photo, Ramush Haradinaj, right, former rebel commander elected Kosovo's Prime Minister, listens during the inaugural session of Kosovo's parliament in Kosovo's capital Pristina.

Associated Press

wanted to run for reelection "because I am not accused."

Kosovar President Hashim Thaci wrote on his Facebook page that he would

take the necessary steps to install a new government.

Haradinaj's government held together Cabinet was held with a delicate balance in the 120-seat parlia-

ment with some votes from the ethnic Serb minority parties too.

Haradinaj, who became prime minister in September 2017, said that while he

thought the summons was politically bad for Kosovo, "I will respect the legal request. I will go there. I will defend myself as a fighter of my country."

The Kosovo Specialist Chambers and a separate Specialist Prosecutor's Office were established in 2015 based on war crimes allegations against the separatist Kosovo Liberation Army catalogued by the Council of Europe, a human rights body.

A 2011 council report reported allegations that included the trafficking of human organs from prisoners and killings of Serbs and KLA members' fellow ethnic Albanians.

The court, which is part of the Kosovo judicial system despite being based in the Netherlands, started questioning former Kosovo fighters this year. Haradinaj was one of the top KLA commanders during the war.

He has been prosecuted for alleged war crimes and acquitted twice before. □

# 6 injured after gas explosion destroys New Zealand home

By NICK PERRY  
Associated Press

**WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)** — Six people were injured and dozens of homes evacuated in the New Zealand city of Christchurch on Friday after a huge gas explosion destroyed one home and damaged others.

The explosion was felt far from the neighborhood, with some fearing it might have been an earthquake or a bomb. Footage of the aftermath shows the home was reduced to a pile of wood and rubble with flames coming out.

Several people who were inside the home at the time survived, including one who remained in Christchurch Hospital in a critical condition. Health authorities said four other patients remained in stable conditions while a sixth person had been discharged.

Authorities confirmed it was a gas explosion although said they're still investigating the cause. Relatives



This imaged made from a video, shows a damaged home following a gas explosion in Christchurch, New Zealand Friday, July 19, 2019.

Associated Press

said the occupants had been having problems with their gas fire.

Neighbor Brad Culver, a U.S. citizen who has been living in New Zealand for eight years, told Television New Zealand he thought at first a plane had crashed

and ran outside.

"The house was in a complete pile of timber and rubbish, you couldn't even conceive that it was a house," he said.

"There was nothing left standing."

Culver said he started pull-

ing people out.

"They all appeared to be O.K., they were in shock but had superficial cuts, bruises, that sort of thing. It didn't look like any life-threatening injuries," he said. "Miracle, really a miracle."

Another neighbor, Ann

Gray, told the network she was standing at her kitchen bench just after 10 a.m. when she felt what she thought was a massive earthquake.

"I looked up and I could see all the stuff going up in the air so I came outside, it was all up in the air like it was huge and it was so high, bits of wood," she said, adding that "it took a while to come down, I thought it was going to come down on top of my house."

Belinda Blanchfield told the news website Stuff that her parents along with other relatives and friends were inside the home at the time of the explosion.

"It's our worst nightmare," she said. "My parents are the absolute kindest people ever."

Blanchfield's husband Paddy Blanchfield told Stuff the occupants had been having issues with their gas fire in recent days and had been awaiting repairs, although it was unclear if those had taken place. □



# Explosion outside Kabul University kills 8, wounds 33

By AMIR SHAH  
KATHY GANNON  
Associated Press

**KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)** — A powerful bomb exploded outside the gates of Kabul University in the Afghan capital on Friday, killing at least eight people and wounding 33, according to police and health officials. Several of the wounded were in critical condition, they said.

No group immediately claimed responsibility for the attack, the latest to target Kabul. Both the Taliban and the Islamic State group often stage large-scale bombings in the city. The Taliban generally target Afghan forces and government officials and the Islamic State also often attacks minority Shiites.

The early morning blast also set two vehicles ablaze although it wasn't clear if the attack was carried out by a suicide bomber or a remotely detonated bomb, said Kabul police spokesman Ferdous Faramarz.



Afghan security forces stand guard near the site of an explosion in Kabul, Afghanistan, Friday, July 19, 2019.

Associated Press

The casualty tolls were released by the Health Ministry spokesman, Dr. Wahidullah Mayar, who tweeted: "All the wounded patients were evacuated to our

hospitals and have been receiving the required treatment."

After initial reports of six dead, Mayer said two people died of their wounds

and that the number of wounded rose to 33, following reports from hospitals around the city.

The university compound houses several hostels

where many students stay over the summer, attending classes and working on research projects. The university is co-ed and has women attending classes alongside men, something the Taliban oppose, saying they accept education for women but that it should be segregated.

Though Friday is the start of the weekend in Afghanistan, Massoud, an economics professor at the university who like many Afghans uses only one name, said that several lawyers were taking their exams to become judges when the explosion occurred. It wasn't immediately clear if the lawyers were the target. In recent months, at least two professors at Kabul University with alleged links to Afghanistan's Islamic State affiliate have been arrested, and last year the wall that surrounds the university was emblazoned with graffiti reading, "Long Live Daesh," the Arabic name for the Islamic State group. □

# Sudanese opposition seeks postponement in deal with military

By NOHA ELHENNAWY

**CAIRO (AP)** — Sudan's pro-democracy movement is seeking to postpone the signing of the second and possibly more contentious part of a power-sharing agreement with the country's military, saying Friday that it needs more time to resolve differences among its members over the deal. The first part of the deal was signed earlier this week, marking a significant step forward amid simmering tensions between the protest movement and the country's military, which in April ousted longtime autocrat Omar al-Bashir.

The two sides were expected to meet Friday, negotiate and subsequently sign the so-called constitutional declaration that defines how much power each would have in the transitional period until elections are held in Sudan.

Some leaders of the pro-democracy movement flew to Ethiopia on Friday to meet with leaders of the



Gen. Mohammed Hamdan Dagalo signs a power sharing document with Sudan's pro-democracy movement and the ruling military council in Khartoum, Sudan, Wednesday, July 17, 2019.

Associated Press

Revolutionary Front, an alliance of rebel groups who are also members of the pro-democracy coalition. The Revolutionary Front had rejected the deal struck with the military arguing it failed to meet their demands for the peace.

"The Revolutionary Front was present in all talks from the beginning. Its representatives pulled out only from the last two sessions," said Ahmed Rabie, a leader of the Forces for the Declaration of Freedom and Change, a broad-

based coalition including independent professional unions, traditional political parties and other groups that represent protesters. "We will try to understand their viewpoint."

For decades, Sudan has been convulsed by rebel-

lions in the provinces by ethnic and religious minorities who felt marginalized or oppressed by the Khartoum government, which is dominated by northern Sudanese Arab Muslims.

The Revolutionary Front includes rebel groups from Darfur as well as Blue Nile and South Kordofan states. Rasha Awad, editor of the online Sudanese newspaper Altaghyeer, said a transition to democracy is contingent upon the achievement of peace with these armed groups.

"The lack of peace always justifies the overblown role of the military and security bodies as well as the elimination of civil liberties," she said. "Throughout Sudan's history, all attempts of democratic rule were aborted because they were not preceded by the achievement of peace."

Sudan's government fought a decades-long war in mostly Christian and animist South Sudan until its secession in 2011. □



## Japan summons SKorean envoy to protest wartime labor dispute

By MARI YAMAGUCHI

Associated Press

**TOKYO (AP)** — Japan's foreign minister on Friday summoned South Korea's ambassador and accused Seoul of violating international law by refusing to join in an arbitration panel to settle a dispute over World War II forced labor.

The neighboring countries are quarreling over South Korean court decisions ordering Japanese companies to compensate victims of forced labor during Japan's 1910-1945 colonial rule of the Korean Peninsula.

Foreign Minister Taro Kono said after summoning Ambassador Nam Gwan-pyo that Japan will "take necessary measures" against South Korea if interests of Japanese companies are harmed, without giving details.

Their talks were held in an icy atmosphere, briefly turning confrontational.

"It is extremely problematic that South Korea is one-



Japan's Foreign Minister Taro Kono meets with South Korean Ambassador to Japan Nam Gwan Pyo, front right, at foreign ministry in Tokyo Friday, July 19, 2019.

Associated Press

sidedly leaving alone the situation that violates the international law, which is the foundation of our bilateral relationship," Kono told Nam. "The action being taken by the South Korean

government is something that completely overturns the order of the international community since the end of the World War II."

Kono urged Seoul to immediately take action to

stop the court process, under which the plaintiffs of the lawsuit are preparing to seize assets of the Japanese companies, including Mitsubishi Heavy Industry. Nam defended his gov-

ernment and mentioned Seoul's proposal of creating a joint fund as a way to settle the dispute. Kono raised his voice, saying Tokyo had already rejected the idea. He also criticized the ambassador for being "rude" to suggest it again.

Japan says all compensation issues had been settled under the 1965 bilateral agreement and that the South Korean government's lack of intervention to stop the court process is a breach of the international treaty. Tokyo is considering taking the issue to the International Court of Justice, although some officials say South Korea is expected to refuse going to court. Tokyo may seek damages from South Korea in case assets of Japanese companies are seized, Japanese media have reported.

In Seoul, a 78-year-old South Korean man died hours after setting himself ablaze near the Japanese Embassy on Friday, police said. □

## Thai court accepts complaints against PM, opposition leaders

Associated Press

**BANGKOK (AP)** — Thailand's Constitutional Court accepted complaints against the prime minister and two opposition party leaders Friday in cases that could disqualify them from office.

The court said it has accepted a complaint against Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha sent by 110 members of Parliament who seek his disqualification because he held another government position as junta leader.

The court also said in the statement that it accepted complaints against two leaders of the Future Forward Party, Thanathorn Juangroongruangkit and Piyabutr Saengkanokkul, who are accused of attempting to overthrow the constitutional monarchy.

The court allowed the defendants 15 days to submit their arguments but did not indicate when it would rule. The courts in Thailand have regularly ruled in favor of



In this photo taken on Tuesday, July 16, 2019, Thailand's Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha gestures after a group photo with his cabinet members at the government house in Bangkok, Thailand.

Associated Press

the conservative establishment that includes the military.

Prayuth led a military coup in 2014 and oversaw the junta that enacted new

electoral laws giving him an advantage in March elections. It virtually assured he would continue leading the government since the prime minister would

be chosen in a joint vote by the elected House and the appointed Senate. He was elected in June by a vote of 500 to 244 for Thanathorn. Piyabutr,

the Future Forward Party's secretary-general, said in a Facebook post late Friday that his party is not trying to overthrow the constitutional monarchy and alleged that the military coup had undermined Thailand's system of government.

The Constitutional Court said it would not suspend Prayuth while it considers his case because he does not pose a damaging threat and because the complaint did not seek his suspension.

In May, the court blocked Thanathorn from taking his seat in Parliament after it agreed to consider a case over whether he violated a rule against lawmakers holding shares in media companies.

Thanathorn has said he is not guilty because the shares were transferred before he contested the election. However, the court said it was suspending him because his potential guilt would obstruct the House's work. □



# Navy brass, low budget blamed for Argentina sub tragedy

By DÉBORA REY

Associated Press

**BUENOS AIRES, Argentina**

(AP) — An Argentine legislative commission has concluded that the sinking of a submarine with all 44 crewmembers was caused by the inefficiency of naval commanders and budget limitations, discarding theories the vessel was attacked or hit by a ship.

In a report released Thursday, the legislators also questioned the handling of the crisis by Defense Minister Oscar Aguad and President Mauricio Macri, who the commission said showed a "low level of involvement with everything related to the tragedy."

The ARA San Juan disappeared on Nov. 15, 2017, in the South Atlantic as it sailed back to its base at the port of Mar del Plata after participating in a training exercise. The wreckage wasn't found until almost a year later at a depth of 800 meters (2,625 feet) east of Patagonia's Valdes Pen-



In this undated file photo provided by the Argentine Navy shows an ARA San Juan, a German-built diesel-electric vessel, near Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Associated Press

insula. The discovery was made by a ship from the U.S. company Ocean Infinity, which had been hired to search.

"The hypotheses that the submarine was attacked by a foreign warship, hit by a fishing vessel or was

performing secret tasks outside of jurisdictional waters have been discarded," said the commission, which was made up of lawmakers from different parties, including the governing party.

The report pointed to bud-

get limitations in recent years as contributing to the disaster as well as "the failure to update technologies and maintain a minimal level of maintenance based on hours of use that produced a growing deterioration" of the submarine.

The navy "tried to continue to fulfill its ordered missions with increasingly reduced budgets. It accepted as normal operating under conditions that were far from optimal for the task," the report said.

The government did not immediately comment on the report.

The night before the submarine disappeared, the crew reported that the entry of water into the ventilation system had started a fire in one of the battery tanks. The vessel surfaced and continued sailing. Its captain reported the next day that the situation was controlled and that he was preparing to descend to 40 meters (131 feet) to assess the damage and reconnect the batteries. Nothing more was heard from the submarine. "Fires in the battery tanks of submarines are very serious accidents ... the issue was underestimated by the entire chain of command" of the navy, the commission said. □

# El Salvador judge orders new charges for El Mozote massacre

By MARCOS ALEMÁN

Associated Press

**SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador**

(AP) — A judge ruled Thursday that 17 former members of El Salvador's military, including ex-leaders of the armed forces, will also face charges of torture, forced disappearance and forced displacement related to the 1981 El Mozote massacre, a gruesome point in the country's civil war.

The new charges encompass alleged crimes against humanity stemming from the incident in the early years of the conflict, according to the ruling in San Francisco Gotera, a town northeast of the capital. The defendants already were on trial on charges that include murder, rape, theft and terrorism.

Four of the 17 weren't in court because of illness or travel outside El Salvador. None are being held, but the court said Thursday that the defendants must stay in the country.

The government and insur-



In this photo distributed by human rights organization Cristosal, former defense minister Jose Guillermo Garcia talks to journalists as he leaves the court along with Rafael Flores Lima, former head of armed forces and Jesus Gabriel Contreras, former head of operations for armed forces, in San Francisco Gotera, El Salvador, Thursday, July 18, 2019.

Associated Press

gents signed a peace accord in 1992 to end the 12-year war, which killed more than 75,000 people.

The massacre in the village of El Mozote, 75 miles (120 kilometers) from San Salva-

dor, took place over three days in December 1981. The Atlacatl battalion, which was trained in counterinsurgency tactics in the U.S., set out to find guerrillas but ended up killing civilians.

The official death toll was 989, including farmers and children. Many of the victims' bodies were thrown into a church that was burned to the ground. In one mass grave, forensic

analysts found 136 skeletal remains of children who averaged 6 years of age.

A 1983 report by the United Nations Truth Commission blamed the massacre on Col. Domingo Monterrosa, commander of the Atlacatl battalion; Col. Armando Azmitia, and six other officers who were never put on trial because of an amnesty law. Monterrosa and Azmitia died at El Mozote in 1984 when a helicopter in which they were flying exploded when fired on by guerrillas.

Among those facing new charges are former Defense Minister José Guillermo García; retired Gen. Rafael Flores Lima, a former head of the armed forces; and retired Gen. Juan Rafael Bustillo, former leader of the air force.

Bustillo has repeatedly claimed his innocence and petitioned the judge that he not be required to come to court for fear of being harmed by the victims' families. □



## LOCAL



## Hooked on Seafood



**PALM BEACH** — For sublime seafood in Aruba go to the island's Premiere Seafood restaurant: Aqua Grill. This seafood-heaven place is already a statement for years with a consistency in upscale dining and top service. If you like to savor your seafood, this is your plunge. We promise you that you will get hooked.

The glow of Aqua Grill is obvious by entering the restaurant. The eclectic of a modern and a traditional New England fish house style appeal and the open-view kitchen adds to the thrill. Let's see what is on the menu. Deep down delicious seafood is what you are craving for and that is exactly what you will get. Welcome in the theatre of the sea, let us entertain you.

**The Core**

Secretly, we all know that the success of a restaurant has its core in the kitchen. That is where the chef creates his magic and for Aqua Grill the culinary team won a range of awards for their continuous delivery of haute-cuisine del mar. Classic seafood is mingled with contemporary ideas resulting in surprising dishes that soon made the restaurant a must-dine, confirmed by established travel media specialists like Fodor's.



Aqua Grill invites you to get hooked on the largest raw bar of the island and dive into the wine list of over one hundred selected choices. Local and international catches create an impressive menu including snapper, grouper, mahi-mahi, Chilean salmon, sashimi tuna, Main lobster and Alaskan king crabs. Non-seafood options are part of the menu selection as well. Many locals and visitors are already a regular, we are convinced you want to join that group after your first experience. ☐



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## Aruba Symphony Festival



**ORANJESTAD** — The Aruba Symphony Festival and Academy is an international event where every year, first-class musicians from around the globe make Aruba their destination. During these 12 intensive days of music-making, guest artists and students from more than 15 countries give the happy island an unforgettable experience with full-house concerts, workshops, conferences and classes led by celebrated international artists. Most of these concerts are FREE, some have a small admission and NEW is that the festival offers VIP packages this year. This is an event you don't want to miss.

### Here's a views of the upcoming events

Saturday July 20th at Cas di Cultura – Music by Heitor Villa-Lobos (Brazil) and Enrique Granados (Spain). Revero Trio consists of Venezuelan musicians who have made a name for themselves in Aruba, having

performed here many times in the past. Ana Maria Otamendi, pianist; Horacio Contreras, cellist and Simon Gollo, violinist. Three musicians with passion for their chosen profession. They will perform the "Piano Trio No.1 in C minor" of the famous Brazilian composer Heitor Villa-Lobos. This piece consists of four movements and lasts 23 minutes.

After this, Randolph Kelly (violinist) and Olivier Piguet (violinist) will join the trio for a quintet to interpret "Piano Quintet in G Minor, Op. 49" of the Spanish composer Enrique Granados. Although he died very young (48) Granados left many compositions of which Op. 49 probably is among the most popular. The quintet under the direction of Simon Gollo honors the composer and his work. This piece consists of three parts and will last about 15 minutes.

Admission is FREE. There will be a donation box for you to show your appreciation for the Aruba Symphony Festival. The concert starts at 8 PM.

### Sunday July 21st at Cas di Cultura starts at 11.00 AM

More than ten students will participate in the popular and important competition for the "Clyde Harms Scholarship". The winner of this event will be invited to participate, all expenses paid, at the 2020 Aruba Symphony Festival and will have the opportunity to play solo accompanied by the Festival Sym-



phony orchestra. The four previous winners were quite diverse: In 2015, the violinist Andrea Hughes from Salt Lake City. In 2016 it was the Colombian clarinet player XXXXX who won. In 2017 the 14 year old pianist from Temuco, Chile walked away with the prize and last year the winner was the even younger (13) violinist from San Cristobal, Venezuela, Daniela Perez. This year a 12 year old cellist from Colombia will be among the competitors.

The jury of the competition is made

up of masters and guest artists participating in the Festival.

### Sunday July 21st at Paseo Herencia, starts at 8 PM - Music on the street!

Three groups are scheduled to take part: Cincopanda, Latin American Musicv Ensemble and La vie en Corde

For more about the program and the performers at the Aruba Symphony Festival 2019, visit [www.arubasympphonyfestival.com](http://www.arubasympphonyfestival.com). □



## The Aruba Tourism Authority honor loyal visitors on the island



**EAGLE BEACH** — Recently, Kimberley Richardson of the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure to honor one of Aruba's loyal and friendly visitors as a Distinguished Visitor of Aruba. The Distinguished visitor certificate is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba 10 years and more consecutively.

The honoree was Sandy Mayhew who has been visiting the island 11 years consecutively!

This wonderful lady stated that she loves the island very much, especially for its safety, the year-round sunny weather, nice sandy beaches, the island's beauty and Aruba's warm and friendly people.

Ms. Richardson together with the representatives of the Divi Aruba Phoenix presented the certificate to the honoree and also handed over some presents and thanked her for choosing Aruba as her favorite vacation destination and as her home away from home. □



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## Divi Resorts Promotes Pearl Lake to General Manager of Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort

*Pearl Lake takes over the position currently held by retiring General Manager Gerrit Griffith*

ORANJESTAD, ARUBA – Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort is proud to announce that Rooms Division Manager Pearl Lake will be the resort's next General Manager, effective August 1, 2019, taking over the position formerly held by Gerrit Griffith for 11 years.

"I am ecstatic to become the General Manager of the Divi Phoenix," said Lake. "My goal in life has always been to make an impact in someone's life by bringing out the best in them, helping them realize their full potential and assisting in developing their skills. This was always my focus as the Rooms Division Manager, but becoming the General Manager allows me to broaden this reach."

An Aruban local with a husband of 23 years, five children, and two grandchildren, Lake has over 20 years of hospitality experience with 12 of those years spent at Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort.

"Pearl started as the Front Desk Supervisor back in 1999 and over the past 10 years has worked her way up the ranks, proving herself as a valuable member of the team," said Marco Galaverna, Divi Resorts President & COO. "As a local and one of our owners, members and guest's favorite managers, Pearl is the perfect fit for the position."

Lake is one of only a handful of female Arubans to hold the position of Gen-

eral Manager on the island and the second female General Manager at Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort, after Astrid Muller.

"We are very proud that nearly half of our current General Managers are women," continues Galaverna, "she joins our two other female General Managers, on St. Maarten and Bonaire."

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### About Divi Resorts

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## Net Foreign Assets Dropped Summary of the Monthly Bulletin of May 2019

### Monetary developments

Compared to April 2019, money supply contracted by Afl. 60.2 million to Afl. 4,402.8 million in May 2019, resulting from a drop in net foreign assets (-Afl. 152.2 million) and a rise in net domestic assets (+Afl. 92.0 million).

The drop in the net foreign assets of the banking sector resulted from net sales of foreign exchange to the public (-Afl. 324.9 million), mostly related to payments for goods, other investment and other services. This was largely offset by net purchases of foreign exchange from the public (+Afl. 172.7 million), mainly associated with foreign exchange revenue from tourism exports.

The upsurge in the domestic component of the money supply was due to increases in domestic credit (+Afl. 88.0 million) and non-credit related balance sheet items (+Afl. 4.0 million). The growth in domestic credit was caused by expansions in the claims of the banking sector on the private sector (+Afl. 78.2

million) and in the net claims of the banking sector on the public sector (+Afl. 9.8 million). The upturn in the claims of the banking sector on the private sector was attributed to increases in loans to enterprises (+Afl. 74.2 million) and housing mortgages (+Afl. 6.6 million), which were slightly offset by a decrease in consumer credit (-Afl. 2.7 million). The growth in the net claims of the banking sector on the public sector was caused by an increase of Afl. 85.1 million in the gross claims, which was largely offset by a rise of Afl. 75.3 million in government deposits.

### Inflation

The consumer price index (CPI) for May 2019 noted a 4.8 percent increase year-over-year (YOY). The main contributors to this rise were the components "Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages" and "Communication". Furthermore, by excluding the effect of food and energy, the core CPI grew by 2.9 percent (YOY). The 12-month average inflation rate was 4.4 percent in May 2019, compared to 4.3 per-



cent in April 2019.

### Government

Total government revenue amounted to Afl. 161.7 million in May 2019, Afl. 31.4 million less than the same month of the previous year. This outcome resulted from decreases in both nontax revenue (-Afl. 24.7 million) and tax revenue (-Afl. 6.8 million). The reduction in tax revenue was associated mainly with declines in income from profit tax (-Afl. 14.1 million), wage tax (-Afl. 6.6 million) and import duties

(-Afl. 1.6 million). These downturns were largely offset by increases in income from turnover tax (+Afl. 9.5 million; introduction of the B.A.V.P as opposed to the same month in 2018), and land tax (+Afl. 5.2 million).

### Tourism

Please note that figures on tourism were not yet available at the time of publication of this bulletin.

Centrale Bank van Aruba



# SPORTS



Manny Pacquiao poses on the scale during a weigh-in Friday, July 19, 2019, in Las Vegas. Pacquiao is scheduled to fight Keith Thurman in a welterweight championship boxing match Saturday in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

## Thurman looks to end Pacquiao's resurgent career in showdown

**LAS VEGAS (AP)** — Keith Thurman certainly seems like more than the modern Manny Pacquiao should be able to handle.

Thurman (29-0, 22 KOs) is a decade younger, certainly more powerful and maybe even a bit faster than his famously speedy opponent. Thurman is a tough, voluble welterweight champion in his prime competitive years, and Pacquiao represents the biggest fight of his career — a once-in-a-lifetime chance to pound a boxing great into retirement.

"It's been a build up and a progression my whole career toward this moment on Saturday night," Thurman said. "This really is the outcome of an individual living out their dream."

So why are the 40-year-old Pacquiao (61-7-2, 39 KOs) and trainer Freddie Roach so confident heading into the MGM Grand Garden in Las Vegas?

Continued on Page 22

# IT'S A SHANE



## A good round for Holmes in British, an early exit for Tiger

Ireland's Shane Lowry celebrates after he birdies the 10th hole during the second round of the British Open Golf Championships at Royal Portrush in Northern Ireland, Friday, July 19, 2019.

Associated Press  
Page 19





China's Shi Tingmao competes in the women's 3m springboard diving final at the World Swimming Championships in Gwangju, South Korea, Friday, July 19, 2019.

Associated Press

## Shi wins third successive 3-meter springboard gold at worlds

**GWANGJU, South Korea (AP)** — Two-time Olympic champion Shi Tingmao of China shrugged off a side strain and won her third successive women's 3-meter springboard event at the world diving championships on Friday. "I had to overcome the pain to focus on my own dives," Shi said. "The victory boosts my confidence on the way to the Tokyo Olympic Games."

Shi, as consistent as ever

throughout the final, scored 391.00 points to clinch the gold medal. Teammate Wang Han tallied 372.85 for her third silver medal of the event, as she also finished second in the 2013 and 2017 worlds. Maddison Keeney of Australia won the bronze with 367.05. "This is my first individual medal at the worlds," Keeney said. "It really means a lot to me. "Shi and Wang are incred-

ible athletes. I learn something from them every time." Shi topped five of her six dives. She was second to Keeney on the fourth one. "I was happy that Shi and I had a one-two finish since Keeney is very competitive and a respected rival," Wang said. "It was my third time competing in the 3-meter individual springboard, I was hungry for the gold medal." □



Ana Marcela Cunha of Brazil competes in the women's 25km open water swim at the World Swimming Championships in Yeosu, South Korea, Friday, July 19, 2019.

Associated Press

## Cunha wins 3rd straight 25km open water race at world titles

**GWANGJU, South Korea (AP)** — Ana Marcela Cunha keeps setting the bar higher in open-water swimming at the world championships. The 27-year-old Brazilian won an unprecedented third consecutive 25-kilometer race on Friday and her second gold medal of the Gwangju titles after winning the 5-kilometer race on Wednesday. Cunha, who won the 25-kilometer race titles in 2015 and 2017, took her fifth gold medal and 11th overall at the world championships. She also won the 25-kilometer event in Shanghai in 2011, giving her four over the marathon distance. Cunha finished in 5 hours, 8 minutes, 3 seconds, 8.60 seconds ahead of second-place finisher Finnia Wunram of Germany. Lara Grangeon of France claimed the bronze, 18.20 seconds behind Cunha. The race was held in rainy conditions, heavy at times, and the safety kayakers often had difficulty staying close to the swimmers. "At the start of the race I wondered whether the event would last the entire 25 kilometers due to the rainy weather conditions and the problem with visibility," Cunha said. "I had my doubts and then considered that maybe we would only swim past three hours and then the race would be called off.

"So I wanted to be sure if that happened, I was leading at the time. But later I had no thoughts about the race being suspended. I was feeling really confident." In the men's race, Axel Reymond dueled with Russian Kirill Belyaev over the final meters before the Frenchman lunged ahead for a three-tenths of a second victory. Reymond finished the men's race in a time of 4:51.06.20 while Belyaev clocked 4:51.06.50. Alessio Occhipinti of Italy earned the bronze medal, 3.30 seconds behind Reymond. Another Italian, Simon Ruffini, was fourth, 8.70 seconds behind. Australian Kai Edwards took fifth, 11 seconds behind Reymond. The top Americans in the men's race were David Heron in 14th place, 4 minutes, 5.60 seconds behind the winner, and Brennan Gravley, who finished in 15th, 6:11.30 behind. American Erica Sullivan was fifth in the women's race, 3 minutes, 20.20 seconds behind Cunha, while teammate Katy Campbell finished in ninth place, 3:56.60 behind the winner. Only two of the 24 starters failed the complete the men's race, while five of 21 women did not finish their race. The 25-kilometer races ended the seven-event open water program at the worlds. □

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# Lowry, Holmes share Open lead as McIlroy leaves with cheers

By DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

PORTRUSH, Northern Ireland (AP) —

Everyone in the massive grandstand rose to cheer and celebrate a bold performance by Rory McIlroy, who longed for such support and affection on his walk toward his final hole at Royal Portrush in the British Open.

Except this was Friday.

And now McIlroy can only watch on the weekend as one of his best friends, Shane Lowry of Ireland, goes after the claret jug. Lowry birdied four of his opening five holes on his way to a 4-under 67 and shared the 36-hole lead with J.B. Holmes, who had a 68.

Lee Westwood and Tommy Fleetwood were one shot behind. Brooks Koepka and Jordan Spieth were three back.

That can wait.

This day was all about McIlroy, who kept the sell-out crowd on edge as he tried to make the cut after opening with a 79. The roars had the intensity of a final round as McIlroy ran off five birdies in seven holes to brighten a gloomy sky over the North Atlantic. Needing one last birdie, his approach took a wrong turn along the humps left of the 18th green.

He made par for a 65.

"It's a moment I envisaged for the last few years," McIlroy said. "It just happened two days early."

He was disappointed. He was proud of his play. Mostly, though, he said he was "full of gratitude toward every single one of the people that followed me to the very end and was willing me on."

"As much as I came here at the start of the week saying I wanted to do it for me, by the end of the round there today I was doing it just as much for them," he said.

Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson won't be around, either. It was the first time in 77 majors they have played as professionals that both missed the cut in the same major. Darren Clarke, who honed his game on the Dunluce Links as a junior



J.B. Holmes of the United States and his caddie line up his shot on the 17th green during the second round of the British Open Golf Championships at Royal Portrush in Northern Ireland, Friday, July 19, 2019.

Associated Press

and now calls Portrush home, missed the cut in a most cruel fashion with a triple bogey on his final hole. And now the first British Open in Northern Ireland since 1951 moves on without them, still with the promise of a great show. Lowry was so nervous he was shaking on the tee when the tournament began Thursday, swept up in the emotion of an Open on the Emerald Isle, and on a course he knows. He gave fans plenty to cheer when he opened his second round with three straight birdies, added a birdie on the fifth and holed a 40-foot birdie putt on No. 10 to reach 10 under, making him the only player this week to reach double figures under par. The cheers were as loud as he has heard.

"Just incredible," Lowry said. "You can't but smile, but can't but laugh how it is. There's no point trying to shy away from it. It's an incredible feeling getting applauded on every green, every tee box. I'm out there giving my best, trying to do my best for everyone."

He three-putted the 14th, saved par on the next three holes with his deft touch around the greens, and closed with a bogey to fall back into a tie with Holmes, who played earlier in the day and was the first to post at 8-under 134.

Holmes won at Riviera earlier this year, and then failed to make the cut in eight of his next 12 tournaments as he battled a two-way miss off the tee and felt so bad that he never thought he'd recover. But he did enough in Detroit three weeks ago to regain some confidence, and he has been in a groove at Portrush.

"You can have that great round and that day where everything goes right. But it's nice to get two rounds in a row," Holmes said. "It shows a little consistency. And two days in a row I've hit the ball really well and putted well."

Fleetwood and Westwood, two Englishmen at different stages in their careers, each had a 67 and will play in the group ahead of Lowry and Holmes. Westwood is 46 and can make a case as the best active player

without a major considering his status — a former No. 1 in the world and on the European Tour — and the number of near misses in the majors, such as Muirfield and Turnberry at the Open, Torrey Pines in the U.S. Open and Augusta National when Mickelson outplayed him in 2010.

Is it too late? Westwood wasn't willing to look that far ahead.

"There's too much ground to cover before Sunday night," Westwood said. "There's a long way to go in this tournament. I've never felt under that much pressure, to be honest. You lads write about it. I've always gone out and done my best. If it's going to happen, it's going to happen, and if it doesn't, it doesn't."

The experience of winning majors was behind them. Justin Rose had a 67 and was two shots behind, along with Cameron Smith of Australia and Justin Harding of South Africa. Another shot back was a group that included Koepka, who has won three of the last six majors. He was in a tie for eighth, the 16th time in his

last 17 rounds at the majors he has ended a round in the top 10.

Koepka wasn't happy with much about his 2-under 69, calling it "a little bit disappointing," perhaps because he played in dry weather and only a mild wind.

"But at the same time, I'm close enough where I play a good weekend, I'll be in good shape," he said.

Spieth hasn't quite figured out how to get the ball in play more often — too many bunkers on Thursday, too much high grass on Friday. But that putter is not a problem, and it carried him to a collection of mid-range birdie and par putts for a 67.

"I'm in contention. I feel good," Spieth said, winless since his Open title at Royal Birkdale two years ago. "I feel like if I can continue to improve each day, hit the ball better tomorrow than I did today, and better on Sunday than Saturday, then I should have a chance with how I feel on and around the greens."

Graeme McDowell, born and raised in Portrush, played well enough to make the weekend. He finished with four straight pars for a 70 to make the cut on the number at 1-over 143, and felt the pressure of sticking around for the home crowd. Woods, meanwhile, began this major championship season as the Masters champion, ended it as a mystery. He missed the cut in two of the next three majors, and never seemed fully fit or engaged at the British Open. He was 3 under for his round through 11 holes with hopes of making it to the weekend, but he had no more birdies and finished with two bogeys for a 70 to miss by five shots. "I'm going to have my hot weeks. I'm going to be there in contention with a chance to win, and I will win tournaments," Woods said, facing the reality of a 43-year-old who has gone through eight surgeries on his knee and back. "But there are times when I'm just not going to be there." □



# Harper, Hoskins rally Phillies past Dodgers with 4-run 7th

**By The Associated Press**  
**PHILADELPHIA (AP)** — Bryce Harper tied it in his Phillies Phanatic headband with an RBI single and Rhys Hoskins ripped a two-RBI single in the seventh inning to rally Philadelphia over Los Angeles.  
 Hoskins ripped one to right off Joe Kelly to cap a four-run seventh for the Phillies and a 7-5 lead.  
 Phillies closer Hector Neris, pitching while appealing a three-game suspension, gave up a solo homer to Alex Verdugo in the ninth to make it 7-6. But he got the final out for his 18th save. He upset the Dodgers by yelling into their dugout after getting the final out.  
 Ranger Suarez (2-0) pitched 1 1/3 scoreless innings in relief to help the Phillies split the four-game series with the Dodgers. Dylan Floro (4-3) took the loss in relief.

**CARDINALS 7 REDS 4**  
**CINCINNATI (AP)** — Tommy Edman snapped a sixth-inning tie with his first career grand slam, Paul DeJong hit a two-run homer and St. Louis beat Cincinnati for its fifth win in six games.  
 The slam came one pitch after the Reds just missed what would have been an inning-ending double play. Reliever Robert Stephenson (2-2) retired pinch-hitter Yairo Munoz on a bases-loaded fly to right fielder Yasiel Puig, and Puig's throw home kept Matt Wieters at third. Catcher Juan



Philadelphia Phillies' Bryce Harper, left, celebrates past Los Angeles Dodgers shortstop Enrique Hernandez after hitting an RBI-single during the eighth inning of a baseball game, Thursday, July 18, 2019, in Philadelphia.

Associated Press

Graterol's throw to first almost caught Kolten Wong off the bag, but Wong got his hand to the base a split-second before Joey Votto's tag. Eugenio Suarez hit a solo home run in the first inning and added a sacrifice fly in Cincinnati's two-run third as the Reds built a 3-0 lead. Edman's blow gave Dakota Hudson the win. Hudson (9-4) gave up six hits and three runs with two walks and three strikeouts in five innings. He's 7-1 over his last 11 starts. Hudson also hit a batter.

**NATIONALS 13, BRAVES 4**  
**ATLANTA (AP)** — Stephen

Strasburg had a three-run homer among his three hits and set a franchise-record for a pitcher with five RBIs to help surging Washington beat Atlanta.  
 The Nationals, who have won 14 of their last 18 games, cut Atlanta's lead to 5 1/2 games in the NL East by winning the opener of a four-game series.  
 Strasburg (12-4) improved to 3-0 against Atlanta this season by winning his fifth straight start. He lasted only 5 1/3 innings, allowing eight hits and three runs. His effort on the mound was overshadowed by his career

highs in hits and RBIs.  
 After the Nationals knocked rookie right-hander Kyle Wright (0-3) out of the game in the third, Strasburg hit Touki Toussaint's second pitch 420 feet over the Washington bullpen behind the left-field wall for a three-run homer and an 8-1 lead.  
**BREWERS 5, DIAMONDBACKS 1**  
**PHOENIX (AP)** — Orlando Arcia hit a tiebreaking single in the eighth inning to decide a duel between Milwaukee's Zach Davies (8-2) and Arizona's Merrill Kelly.

Arizona hitters only struck out once, when Matt Albers got Nick Ahmed looking for the game's final out. It's the first time a major league team has had one strikeout in a game since April and came a night after the Diamondbacks tied a franchise record for a nine-inning game with 19 runs against the Texas Rangers. Davies got a lift with Lorenzo Cain robbed Eduardo Escobar of a home run in the first inning. He pitched one-run ball over seven innings, same as Kelly.  
 The Brewers scored three runs off Yoan Lopez (1-3) in the eighth.

**MARLINS 4, PADRES 3**  
**MIAMI (AP)** — Brian Anderson doubled home the winning run with one out in the ninth inning and Miami earned its first walkoff victory of the year.  
 The score was 3-all when Garrett Cooper singled in the ninth against Trey Wingenter (1-3). Pinch runner Yadiel Rivera stole second and scored without a play on Anderson's hit into the left field corner.  
 The Marlins were 1 for 13 with runners in scoring position before Anderson came through. Five Marlins pitchers combined for 15 strikeouts. Sergio Romo (2-0) had two strikeouts in a perfect ninth.  
 Fernando Tatis Jr. hit his 15th home run for the Padres. Miami's Harold Ramirez hit his fourth homer. □

# Jim Herman takes 2nd-round lead in Barbasol Championship



Jim Herman hits the ball from a bunker on the 18th hole during the second round of the Barbasol Championship golf tournament at Keene Trace Golf Club in Nicholasville, Ky., Friday, July 19, 2019.

Associated Press

**NICHOLASVILLE, Ky. (AP)** — Jim Herman shot his second straight 7-under 65 on Friday to take the second-round lead in the PGA Tour's Barbasol Championship.  
 President Donald Trump's regular golf partner while working as an assistant professional at Trump National Bedminster in New Jersey, Herman had a one-stroke lead over Bill Haas at rain-softened Keene Trace.  
 Encouraged by Trump to pursue a playing career, Herman won the 2016 Shell Houston Open for his lone tour title. Haas followed his

opening 65 with a 66. He made a 45-foot eagle putt on the par-5 eighth, his 17th hole. David Toms was two strokes back at 12 under after a 64. The 52-year-old Toms made a 13-foot eagle putt on the par-5 fifth, his 14th hole of the day. D.J. Trahan, Kelly Kraft and Kramer Hickok also were 12 under, each shooting 67.  
 Jose de Jesus Rodriguez (65), Austin Cook (66), Sebastian Munoz (68) and Wes Roach (69) were 11 under.  
 Tom Lovelady played the first six holes on the back nine in 7 under, capped by

a 10-foot eagle putt on the par-5 15th. He bogeyed the par-3 16th and parred the last two for a 65 to top the group at 10 under.  
 J.T. Poston, the first-round leader after a 62, had a 73 to drop into a tie for 18th at 9 under. Canadian Nick Taylor, a stroke behind Poston after an opening 63, also was 9 under after a 72.  
 John Daly missed the cut with rounds of 71 and 72. Fighting osteoarthritis in his right knee, the 53-year-old Daly was playing his first PGA Tour event since he was approved for a cart last fall. □



# Boone dubs Yanks 'savages' during rant in 6-2 win over Rays

By The Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Yankees manager Aaron Boone got fired up at a rookie umpire in a profane rant, and New York awoke from a sleepy start to rally past the Tampa Bay Rays 6-2 in a double-header opener Thursday. New York rallied to win the second game 5-1 and re-open an eight-game AL East lead over the second-place Rays. Luke Voit tied the score in the fifth with his first home run since June 14, and catcher Mike Zunino caused Charlie Morton to balk home the tiebreaking run in a four-run sixth that included Didi Gregorius' two-run single. The Yankees won three straight after wasting a ninth-inning lead in the series opener and improved to 34-11 against the AL East, including 12-5 against Tampa Bay.

After Domingo Germán (12-2) gave up solo homers to his first two batters in the first game, Gio Urshela hit a tying home run in the second off Yonny Chirinos (9-5), and Gary Sánchez smashed a go-ahead 110 mph single off the glove of third baseman Yandy Díaz during a three-run fifth. Díaz had helped the Yankees come alive when he dropped Didi Gregorius' leadoff popup in the second for a two-base error. Boone fumed after rookie umpire Brennan Miller called Brett Gardner out on strikes in the second inning. Miller, umpiring behind the plate for the fifth time in the major leagues, had punched out Aaron

Judge in the first. Gardner batted in the second after Urshela's tying, two-run homer and struck out on a 1-2 pitch.

Gardner returned to the dugout, slammed his bat into the bat rack nine times, then eight times into the dugout roof. Microphones caught Boone yelling that the pitch was outside to Miller, a Triple-A International League crew chief who made his big league debut April 20 as a call-up umpire. Miller said, "I heard you, Aaron," and when Boone persisted, the umpire ejected him. Boone ran out and kept up the argument, getting close to Miller's face and clapping his hands for emphasis. He repeatedly called his players "savages" in the batter's box and told Miller to "tighten it up right now, OK?"

## INDIANS 6, TIGERS 3

**CLEVELAND (AP)** — Trevor Bauer struck out 10 in 6 2/3 innings, José Ramírez hit a go-ahead home run in the sixth and Cleveland beat Detroit for the 11th straight time.

Cleveland swept the four-game series and moved to 12-1 against Detroit this season. The Indians have won five straight and 11 of 13 overall.

Bauer (9-7) has been the subject of trade rumors as the July 31 deadline approaches. Several scouts were seated behind home plate to watch Bauer, who could be one of the big names dealt by end of the month.

Brad Hand recorded the fi-

nal four outs — all on strikeouts — for his 26th save in 27 chances. Tigers starter Matthew Boyd (6-8), another trade candidate, gave up the home run to Ramírez that broke a 3-all tie.

## RED SOX 5, BLUE JAYS 0

**BOSTON (AP)** — Chris Sale and two relievers combined on a two-hitter, and the Boston left-hander struck out 12 in six innings for his first regular season win at Fenway Park in more than a year.

Sale (4-9) gave up both hits and walked two to earn his first victory anywhere in a month and his first at home since July 11, 2018 — a span of 14 starts. It was his 11th game this season with 10 or more strikeouts.

Rafael Devers hit a three-run homer off Thomas Pannone (2-4), who matched Sale into the fifth inning before giving up Sam Travis' double and Sandy León's RBI single. After Mookie Betts walked, Devers hit the first pitch out to right-center to make it 4-0 and chase Pannone.

## TWINS 6, ATHLETICS 3

**MINNEAPOLIS (AP)** — Pinch-hitter Eddie Rosario drove a go-ahead, three-run homer on the first pitch from reliever Yusmeiro Petit (2-2) in the seventh inning and Minnesota beat Oakland.

Rosario produced the first pinch-hit homer of the year for the Twins and helped snap their season-high three-game losing streak. Mitch Garver and C.J. Cron each went deep in the eighth to pad the lead, and Taylor Rogers held the



New York Yankees' Aaron Boone, right, gets in the face of home plate umpire Brennan Miller during the second inning of game one of a baseball doubleheader against the Tampa Bay Rays, Tuesday, July 16, 2019, in New York.

Associated Press

A's down for two innings to record his 14th save in 17 tries.

Despite seven strong innings by starter Kyle Gibson (9-4), the Twins trailed 3-1 entering the seventh against Mike Fiers.

## ASTROS 6, ANGELS 2

**ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP)** — George Springer and Alex Bregman homered, Wade Miley (8-4) pitched two-run ball into the sixth inning and Houston beat Los Angeles. Springer drove four home runs during the four-game series, tying Craig Biggio for the most when batting leadoff in a series in franchise history. Biggio had his four connections during a three-game set against the Cubs in 1998.

The Angels didn't get much of a lift from the return of Mike Trout, who missed three games with a strained right calf. Trout was the designated hitter and went 1 for 4.

Springer's solo shot to right-center off Matt Harvey (3-5) in the third inning was his

22nd of the season, matching his total from last year. Bregman's homer to lead off the sixth gave Houston a 6-0 lead.

## ROYALS 6, WHITE SOX 5

**KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)** — Cheslor Cuthbert and Jorge Soler homered in a five-run third inning, and Kansas City stayed hot by completing a four-game sweep of Chicago.

Ian Kennedy gave up a run in the ninth but struck out A.J. Reed looking with the tying run on second base to clinch the win and earn his 16th save in 19 opportunities. Brad Keller (6-9) recovered from a rocky start to get the win.

The White Sox have lost seven in a row since coming back from the All-Star break and drop a season-worst nine games under .500. Yoan Moncada matched his career high, set last year, with his 17th home run in the top of the third to make it 3-0 before the Royals scored. Ross Detwiler (1-1) took the loss. □

# Rodríguez, Rooney help DC United rout FC Cincinnati

By The Associated Press

**CINCINNATI (AP)** — Lucas Rodríguez had two goals, Wayne Rooney scored his 11th of the season and D.C. United beat expansion FC Cincinnati 4-1 on Thursday night.

D.C. United (9-5-8) has lost just once in the last eight

games to move within one point of first-place Philadelphia in the Eastern Conference.

Cincinnati (5-14-2) had its two-game winning streak snapped.

Rodríguez opened the scoring in the 42nd minute, curling a shot around goal-

keeper Spencer Richey. FC Cincinnati is 0-12-1 when allowing the first goal.

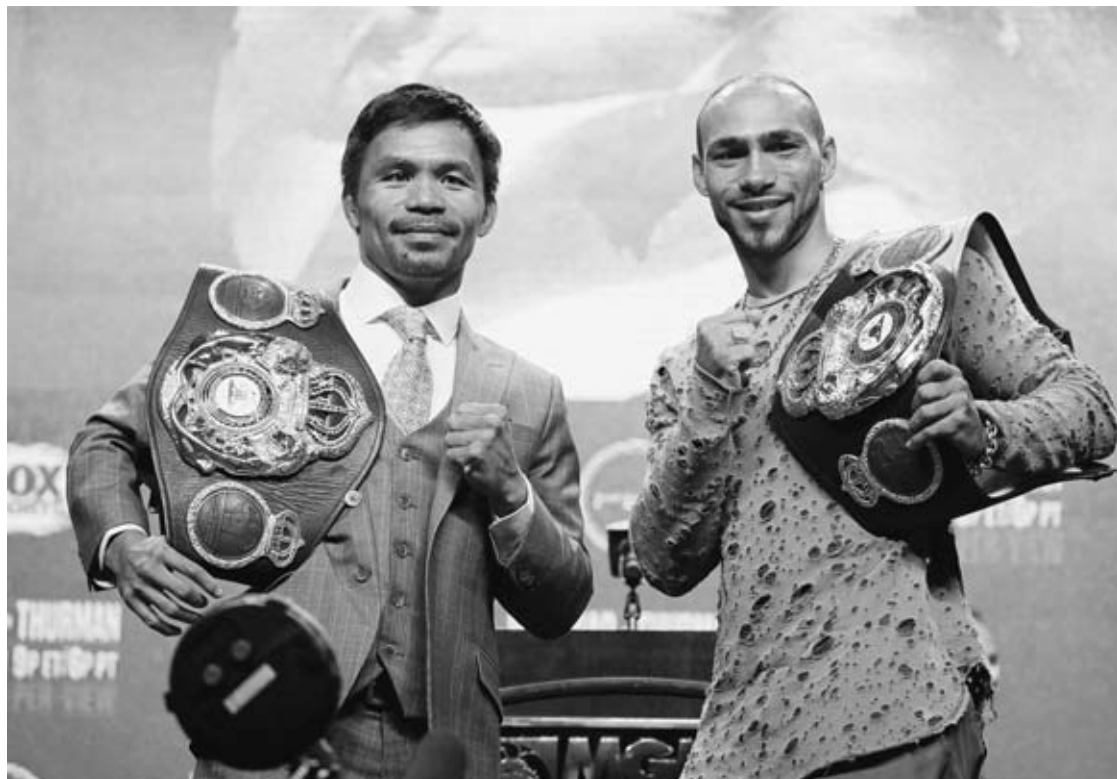
Rodríguez gave United a 2-1 lead on a deflected shot from distance in the 59th. Rooney made it 3-1 in the 64th and Paul Arriola capped it in the 73rd — both on breakaways. □



Orlando City keeper Greg Ranjitsingh makes a save next to teammate Dillon Powers, right, during the first half of an MLS soccer game against the Portland Timbers on Thursday, July 18, 2019, in Portland, Ore.

Associated Press





Manny Pacquiao, left, and Keith Thurman pose during a news conference Wednesday, July 17, 2019, in Las Vegas for their welterweight championship boxing match scheduled for Saturday in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

Continued from Page 17

And why is the older eight-division champion actually a slight betting favorite against one of the best 147-pounders in the world? After 18 years together, Pacquiao and Roach believe Thurman is just another challenge to be overcome by hard work, smart planning and the psychological edge of experience.

Thurman looks daunting on paper, but Pacquiao and Roach are virtuosos on canvas.

"Tomorrow night, class is in session," Pacquiao said Friday after the weigh-in. "I hope Keith Thurman studied hard, because Professor Pacquiao gives very hard tests."

Pacquiao and Thurman both hold versions of the WBA 147-pound title heading into this Fox Sports pay-per-view showdown. In Roach's educated mind, the vaunted Thurman has far more questions to answer than Pacquiao, who is coming into this fight off back-to-back victories over Lucas Matthysse and Adrien Broner.

Can Thurman recapture his prime fighting form after two years of relative inactivity caused by a 22-month injury layoff? Can he match Pacquiao's legendary speed while showing the stamina to fight effectively for 12 rounds against Manny's famed pace?

"I hope Thurman brings his

best, because that's when Manny will be at his best," Roach said. "Thurman is a good fighter, but Manny beats good fighters all the time. And I don't think Keith Thurman is a great fighter. I think Broner is a better fighter, and Manny took care of him (easily)."

While Thurman is in the biggest bout of his career, the Filipino senator's late-career resurgence also reaches a vital point Saturday. Despite what Roach says, Thurman seems certain to be a big step up in competition from Matthysse and Broner, and the cumulative effects of a boxing career rarely wear well after 40.

"Manny isn't going to do anything with those little T-Rex arms," Thurman said. "He's about to get beat up. I get to punch a senator in the face, and he's going to feel it." Thurman earned the nickname "One Time" with his one-punch knockout power, yet he has stopped just one of his seven opponents since December 2013. And though Thurman is still in his ostensible prime, he has shown a few signs of weariness with his sport.

He has never looked more vulnerable as a professional than he did in his comeback victory last January over tough veteran Josesito Lopez, who rocked Thurman repeatedly and even won a 10-8 round without a knockdown. More recently, Thurman has repeat-

edly spoken about how he's eager to get a few big paydays and then get out of boxing — a sensible mentality that nonetheless could indicate a fighter's focus isn't completely on competition anymore.

Thurman has been totally focused in public appearances for this big-money bout, however. "I'm going to do to Manny Pacquiao what he did to Oscar De La Hoya," Thurman said, referring to Pacquiao's landmark victory over the Golden Boy in 2008.

While Thurman would love to retire his opponent, Pacquiao plans to keep competing indefinitely, and he doesn't dismiss the notion of fighting to 50 and beyond, as Bernard Hopkins did. He has openly looked beyond Thurman to his hopes of a second fight with the retired Floyd Mayweather, or a unification bout with champion Errol Spence.

But just in case anybody believes he isn't focused on Thurman, Pacquiao said that even his mother took offense at Thurman's pre-fight trash talk, including his vow to "crucify" the vocally evangelical Pacquiao.

"I'm just always smiling, no matter what Keith says," Pacquiao said. "It's easy to say things, but it's not easy to do it in the ring. I've been in this sport longer than Keith Thurman, so my experience will be the difference." □



Marianne Vos, of the Netherlands celebrates as she crosses the finish line to win La Course by Le Tour de France, a women's cycling race, with start and finish in Pau, France, Friday, July 19, 2019.

Associated Press

## Vos wins La Course, still no women's Tour de France planned

**PAU, France (AP)** — There is nothing bigger for male riders than victory at the Tour de France. It's the pinnacle of cycling. But there is no such prize for female riders. Despite calls from cycling's governing body UCI for the creation of a women's Tour, organizers of cycling's marquee race have yet to come up with plans for an equivalent.

All they offer in July is a one day-race, La Course, that was held on the margins of the Tour de France on Friday in Pau and won by Dutch rider Marianne Vos. Fresh from winning four stages at the 10-day Giro Rosa in Italy, Vos added another trophy to her large collection in the southwestern city of Pau, but victory in France did not taste the same.

"It was an incredible feeling to win four stages at the Giro, at the highest level," said Vos, a three-time world champion. "Here at La Course, it was really nice to show this form."

Tour organizers ASO have been holding the event since 2014 and say it's not possible for them to operate a longer race, for logistical and security reasons.

"We are not capable of organizing another event during the Tour," Tour director Christian Prudhomme told The Associated Press. "About 29,000 police forc-

es are mobilized for three weeks. France has been struck by attacks, there were the yellow vests (protesters). It's impossible to have even just one extra security staff during the Tour."

To Prudhomme's credit, ASO has been showing interest in running women's equivalents of one-day classics Fleche Wallonne and Liege-Bastogne-Liege. The company also organizes a women's mini Tour of Yorkshire over two days. UCI president David Lappartient said this week he has been holding discussions with Tour organizers aiming at boosting women's cycling exposure.

"One day of racing is clearly not enough for women," Lappartient told the BBC. "If we want a women's Tour de France, we can (have it). For women's cycling we can continue to push."

A women's Tour de France was held during the 1980s alongside the men's race. Frenchwoman Jeannie Longo won it three times but the race never fueled real media interest.

Cycling enjoyed great success at the 2012 London Olympics. Vos was among a group of riders, including former time trial world champion Emma Pooley, which campaigned for the creation of a proper women's Tour. □



# Alaphilippe stuns Tour with time-trial win, builds race lead

By JOHN LEICESTER and  
SAMUEL PETREQUIN  
AP Sports Writers

**PAU, France (AP)** — A question that first seemed pie-in-the-sky is growing in credibility with each additional ride that takes him toward Paris: Could Julian Alaphilippe carry the yellow jersey glued ever more firmly to his shoulders all the way to the Tour de France finish on the Champs-Élysées?

With the Tour's toughest climbs looming from Saturday, Alaphilippe pretends not. But it's becoming increasingly difficult to believe him. Having had no excuse to uncork champagne since it last had a Tour winner in 1985, France will soon need to start thinking about icing the bubbly if he keeps surprising everyone, even himself.

Inspired by his yellow jersey, Alaphilippe delivered the biggest shock so far in this Tour by holding off defending champion Geraint Thomas to win the only individual time-trial stage on Friday, extending his race lead and ratcheting up French hopes for a first homegrown champion since Bernard Hinault won his fifth title 34 years ago.

Roared on by crowds thunderously hammering on roadside barriers, and super-motivated on the 100th birthday of the iconic yellow shirt, Alaphilippe delivered a barnstorming performance on the tricky, hilly, turn-filled time-trial loop south of Pau, with spectacular views of the Pyrenees.

Having previously predicted that he'd lose time to Thomas, an expert in the race against the clock, Alaphilippe stunned even himself by emphatically relegating the Welshman into second place, 14 seconds slower — a surprising margin of victory in a discipline where riders train in wind tunnels and ride go-fast bikes in go-fast skinsuits to shave off time.

"It's incredible," Alaphilippe said, adding that his performance reduced members of his team to tears.

"I was transported by the

maillot jaune."

His second stage victory of this Tour — he also was victorious on Stage 3 — came 100 years to the day since the Tour first awarded a yellow jersey, to Frenchman Eugène Christophe on July 19, 1919. Stage 3 was also where Alaphilippe first took the race lead. He then lost it on Stage 6, got it back on Stage 8 and hasn't let anyone else near it ever since. But between Alaphilippe and Paris are two huge obstacles: The Pyrenees and the Alps, with a total of seven climbs to above 2,000 meters (6,500 feet) still to come in the highest Tour in the race's 116-year history. The first of those monsters is the Tourmalet on Saturday. Alaphilippe's sizeable lead of 1 minute, 26 seconds over Thomas could melt like the Pyrenees' last snows in the July heat if he cracks on the long uphill finish and, next week, in the Alps.

"There's a long way to go and a lot of hard stages to come now," Thomas said. But Thomas, too, was among those stunned by Alaphilippe's sustained power on the 27-kilometer (17-mile) time-trial route, where he was quickest through all the checkpoints and then rode explosively up the final climb to grow his winning margin.

"I didn't really expect that," Thomas said. "He's obviously going incredibly well, so he's certainly the favorite and the one to watch." Mindful of how quickly the Tour's mountains can destroy podium hopes, Alaphilippe furiously sought to temper expectations, repeating that he is thinking only "day by day."

"One mustn't dream," Alaphilippe said.

Given the doping-stained history of cycling and the Tour, Alaphilippe also immediately faced a question in his winner's news conference about the believability of his performance, which he batted away, seemingly unruffled.

"If it creates suspicions, that's the way it is," he said. "I'm just riding my bike in the way I like."

Having continued to con-



France's Julian Alaphilippe wearing the overall leader's yellow jersey crosses the finish line to win the thirteenth stage of the Tour de France cycling race, an individual time trial over 27.2 kilometers (16.9 miles) with start and finish in Pau, France, Friday, July 19, 2019.

Associated Press

found expectations with his punchy riding and gritty determination to stay in yellow, Alaphilippe is converting others in the peloton to the idea that he could ride up the Champs-Élysées in the lead on July 28.

"He can surprise everybody," said Belgian rider Thomas De Gendt, third on Stage 13 and 36 seconds slower than Alaphilippe. Behind Thomas and Alaphilippe, there was significant movement in the overall standings among other riders also fighting to get on the podium.

Steven Kruijswijk from the Netherlands, fifth in Paris last year, vaulted to third overall. But his deficit to Alaphilippe grew to 2:12, having been just 1:27 off the lead before the French rider's time-trial tour de force.

Thomas' teammate, Egan Bernal, slipped from third to fifth overall, now 2:52 behind Alaphilippe. Having started the Tour in Belgium as equal co-leader with Bernal on their team, Thomas looks increasingly like the undisputed No. 1 at Ineos. The no-holds-barred performance from Alaphilippe rewarded him for taking risks on the course that proved too difficult for some other riders.

Belgian Wout van Aert, a

Tour rookie who won Stage 10, plowed into a roadside barrier and crashed in a right-hand curve close to the finish. He'd been one of the quickest riders on the course before hitting the deck. Medics treated

him at the side of the road and then transported him away by ambulance. His team, Jumbo-Visma, said van Aert was conscious but out of the Tour with a flesh wound on his right upper leg. □

## Former world indoor champ Adekoya gets 4-year doping ban

**MONACO (AP)** — Former world indoor 400-meter champion Kemi Adekoya has been banned for four years for doping in another drug case to hit Bahrain's squad of elite African-born runners.

The Athletics Integrity Unit, which oversees doping cases in track and field, said Friday that Adekoya tested positive for the banned steroid stanozolol. Her ban is backdated from November 2018.

Adekoya competed for Nigeria but switched allegiance to Bahrain ahead of the 2014 Asian Games. Since then, she's won four Asian Games gold medals and an Asian championship title, plus the 2016 world indoor 400 gold in Portland. The AIU said Adekoya's results since Aug.

24 last year would be struck out, meaning she loses her Asian Games gold medals in the 400 hurdles and the 4x400 mixed relay. The hurdles gold is due to pass to Vietnam's Quach Thi Lan and the relay gold to India. Bahrain's longstanding policy of fielding African-born runners has come under scrutiny after Olympic marathon silver medalist Eunice Kirwa was banned for four years last month in a doping case. Another distance runner, Violah Jepchumba, was banned last year.

After countries including Bahrain and Qatar spent years recruiting African runners, the IAAF tightened the rules for changes of allegiance in track in 2018, saying it feared some athletes were being bought and sold by third parties. □



# Deepfake videos pose a threat, but 'dumbfakes' may be worse

By **BEATRICE DUPUY** and **BARBARA ORTUTAY**

Sophisticated phony videos called deepfakes have attracted plenty of attention as a possible threat to election integrity. But a bigger problem for the 2020 U.S. presidential contest may be "dumbfakes" — simpler and more easily unmasked bogus videos that are easy and often cheap to produce.

Unlike deepfakes, which require sophisticated artificial intelligence, audio manipulation and facial mapping technology, dumbfakes can be made simply by varying the speed of video or selective editing. They are easier to create and can be convincing to an unsuspecting viewer, which makes them a much more immediate worry.

A slowed-down video of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi that made her appear impaired garnered more than 2 million views on Facebook in May. In November, then-White House Press Secretary Sarah Sanders tweeted a sped-up video of CNN reporter Jim Acosta that made him look more aggressive than he was during an exchange with an intern. Her post received thousands of retweets.

The fact that these videos are made so easily and then widely shared across social media platforms does not bode well for 2020, said Hany Farid, a digital forensics expert at the University of California, Berkeley.

"The clock is ticking," Farid said. "The Nancy Pelosi video was a canary in a coal mine."

Social media companies don't have clear-cut policies banning fake videos, in part because they don't want to be in the position of deciding whether some-



In this Monday, July 1, 2019, photo Hany Farid, a digital forensics expert at the University of California at Berkeley, poses for a photo while taking a break from viewing video clips in his office in Berkeley, Calif.

Associated Press

thing is satire or intended to mislead people — or both. Doing so could also open them to charges of censorship or political bias.

Facebook, however, will "downrank" false or misleading posts — including videos — so that fewer people will see them. Such material will also be paired with fact checks produced by outside organizations, including The Associated Press.

There are also vast gray areas depending on political affiliation or your sense of humor.

One social media user who calls himself Paul Lee Ticks — a play on the word "politics" — often makes fabricated videos, mostly of President Donald Trump. In one of his most recent

video edits, he added a "concentration camps" sign to the Trump International Hotel & Tower in Chicago. Another social media user who goes by the handle Carpe Donktum makes edited videos in support of the president. Following Trump's June comments that Joe Biden appeared slow, Carpe Donktum slowed down video footage of Biden and spliced two clips, making the former vice president appear to say something he did not.

Trump often retweets Carpe Donktum and last week he met the president in person during the White House's "social media summit" featuring conservatives. Carpe Donktum says he makes parody videos

and disputes the notion that his videos are "doctored" because their intent is satirical and the manipulations obvious.

"These are memes and have been on the internet since the internet's inception," he said.

Both Paul Lee Ticks and Carpe Donktum, who spoke to the AP on the condition of anonymity due to fear of threats and harassment, started off making videos that were more simplistic and comical. But their videos have become more sophisticated, blurring the line between what is real and fake in a more convincing way for an audience that is unsuspecting or unfamiliar with their comedic style.

Concern about these videos is growing among experts, politicians and the general public.

During a House Intelligence Committee hearing on June 13, Rep. Adam Schiff, a California Democrat, said the Pelosi video represents the scale of the problem ahead. According to a

June Pew Research Center study, 63% of Americans surveyed about made-up news and information said that videos and images altered to mislead the public create a great deal of confusion around the facts of current issues.

Other manipulations are equally crude, yet more subtle. Some fake videos, for instance, mislabel authentic historical footage of public unrest or police activity with incorrect dates or locations to falsely suggest they depict breaking news. "Disinformation is so powerful in our levels of political polarization," said Ohio State University professor Erik Nisbet, who co-authored a study in 2018 that found fake news may have contributed to Trump's 2016 win. "People are angry, worried and anxious. They are more vulnerable to misinformation and disinformation that validates their feelings."

Demographics also play a role. Cliff Lampe, a professor at the University of Michigan, said older generations that were raised on mass media "tend to trust video more." A study published in the Science Advances journal in January found that people over 65 and ultra-conservative were more likely to share false information.

Edward Delp, director of the Video and Imaging Processing Laboratory at Purdue University, and his team were able to develop an algorithm to detect deepfakes. Finding ways to protect and authenticate videos, he said, could help minimize the impact of manipulated video.

However, video authentication may do little to change people's views. Farid, the UC Berkeley professor, said with the manipulated Pelosi video, users could easily find the original clips of the House speaker online but people were still willing to believe the false video was real.

"If we can't get it right, I mean the public and Facebook, where are we going to be when we have more complex fakes?" he said. □



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# US stocks wobble as companies turn in mixed earnings reports

By STAN CHOE  
DAMIAN J. TROISE  
Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — U.S. stock indexes sloshed between small gains and losses Friday after Microsoft, American Express and other big companies offered up a mixed set of earnings reports.

The big event for markets is still a couple weeks away, when investors expect the Federal Reserve to cut interest rates for the first time in more than a decade. Investors are trying to guess how big a cut will come and position themselves accordingly. Until then, they're focusing on whether companies can top the meager expectations Wall Street has for the profits they made during the spring.

Microsoft rose after reporting stronger earnings for April through June than analysts expected and helped technology stocks deliver some of the market's bigger gains. Several banks also rose following encouraging profit reports, but a drop for American Express held back financial stocks as a group. Losses for health care stocks and high dividend payers also kept the S&P 500 about 0.8% below its record set on Monday.

Momentum for stocks has slowed since early June, when they began soaring on expectations that the Federal Reserve will cut interest rates to make sure



Specialist Michael Pistillo, right, works with traders at his post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, Friday, July 19, 2019.

Associated Press

the U.S. economy doesn't succumb to weaknesses abroad. The Fed's next meeting is scheduled for the end of this month.

Late Thursday, Treasury yields sank after comments by Fed officials raised expectations that the central bank may cut rates by half a percentage point, rather than the traditional quarter point. But yields climbed Friday, and the market sees a quarter-point cut as the most likely move on July 31.

**KEEPING SCORE:** The S&P 500 was down 0.2%, as of 2:54 p.m. Eastern time. Earlier in the day, it had been up 0.4%.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 27 points, or 0.1%, to 27,250, and the

Nasdaq composite fell 0.3%.

**AZURE SKIES:** Microsoft rose 0.5% after strong performance from its cloud-computing business helped drive it to a better-than-expected profit last quarter.

**WHEN \$4.9 BILLION ISN'T THAT BAD:** Boeing said it will take a \$4.9 billion charge to cover possible compensation it will pay airlines following the grounding of its 737 Max jet. That's a huge number, analysts concede, but it may provide some certainty to investors who had worried the payments could be much higher. Boeing also said the figure assumes its 737 Max jets return to service later this year, which would be

earlier than some investors thought.

Boeing shares rose 4.4% and helped drive industrial stocks to the biggest gain of the 11 sectors that make up the S&P 500, at 0.9%.

**BANKING ON IT:** Citizens Financial Group jumped 5.8% for one of the biggest gains in the S&P 500 after it reported stronger profit for the latest quarter than analysts expected. Regions Financial and Capital One Financial also beat Wall Street's profit forecasts, and each rose at least 2.5%.

But financial stocks in the S&P 500 were flat overall, largely due to a 2.5% drop for American Express. The company reported stronger earnings for the latest

quarter than analysts forecast, but it did not raise its forecast for full-year earnings.

**ANALYST'S TAKE:** Companies entered the latest round of earnings with fairly low expectations from Wall Street, and it's showing.

"The biggest overall trend is if you beat, you may be mildly rewarded and if you miss, you are going to get pounded," said J.J. Kinnahan, chief market strategist for TD Ameritrade.

The week's batch of corporate earnings has also shown that consumers are spending money but companies have a wide range of potential problems heading into the second half of the year, he said.

**ABOVE THE FOLD:** USA Today owner Gannett surged 18.4% following media reports that it is considering a combination with GateHouse Media. The reports come two months after the Gannett's shareholders rebuffed an attempt to overthrow its board by MNG Enterprises, also known as Digital First Media.

**COMMODITIES:** Benchmark U.S. crude oil climbed 33 cents, or 0.6%, to settle at \$55.63 after being down earlier in the day. It moved higher after Iran's Revolutionary Guard said it has seized a British oil tanker that was passing through the Strait of Hormuz. Brent crude, the international standard, rose 54 cents, or 0.9%, to \$62.47 per barrel. □

# Budweiser brewer sells Australian unit to pay off debt

**BRUSSELS (AP)** — AB Inbev, the world's biggest brewer with brands like Budweiser and Corona, said Friday it is selling its unit in Australia to reduce debt after it decided against listing shares in Asia.

The company is selling Carlton & United Breweries for \$16 billion AUD (\$11.3 billion) to Japanese rival Asahi Group.

AB Inbev, which is based in Belgium, said it will use almost all the money from the deal to pay down debt.

The company has accrued a mountain of debt - about \$100 billion - after going on an acquisition spree, including buying Anheuser-Busch in 2008 and its next closest rival, SABMiller, in 2015. The SABMiller deal, which was worth some \$107 billion at the time, gave the company broader reach in fast-growing markets in Asia and Africa at a time when consumers were shifting toward smaller brands like microbrews.

It gave it almost a third of

the global beer market and put established brands that had formerly been rivals under the same roof - American icons Budweiser and Miller, for example.

AB Inbev has sought to shed some brands to slim down its debt load and had planned to list some shares on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange to further bolster its finances. But it said this month that it no longer planned to list those shares due to tough market conditions. □



In this Thursday, March 3, 2011 file photo, a man walks past the AB InBev logos, in Leuven, Belgium.

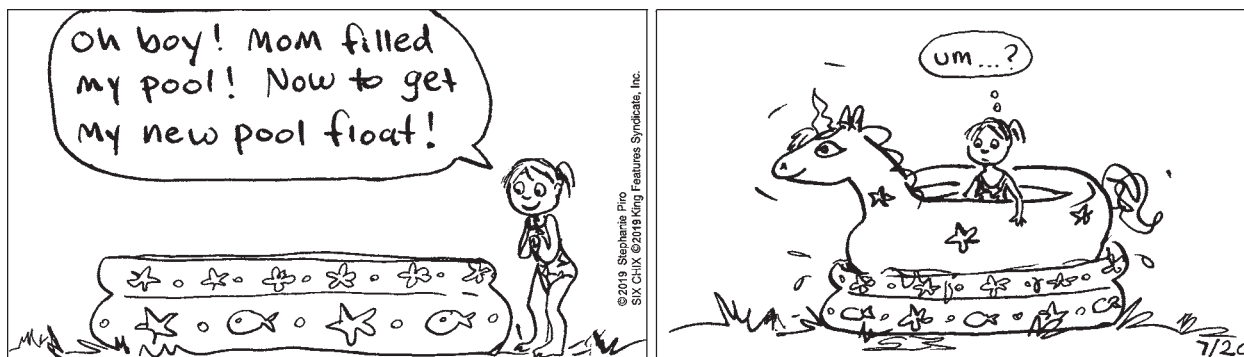
Associated Press



## Mutts



## 6 Chix



## Blondie



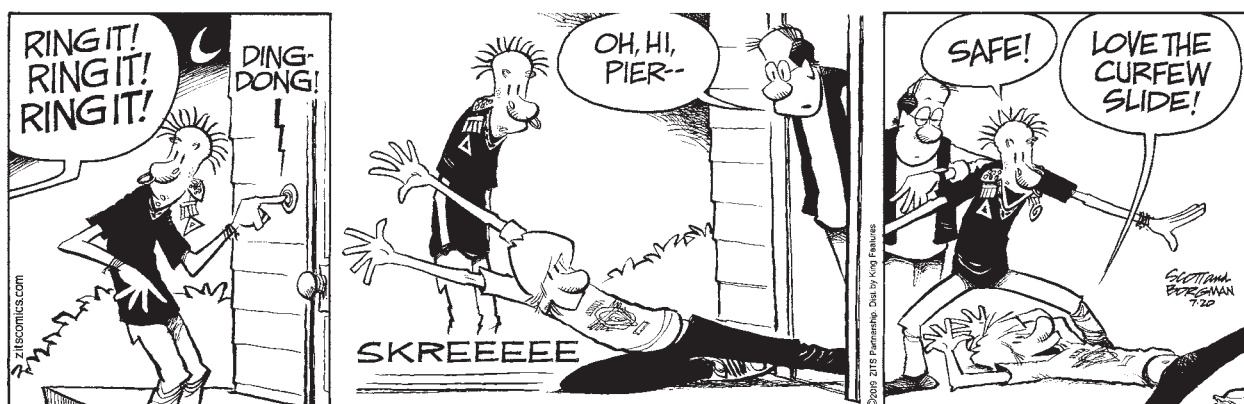
## Mother Goose & Grimm



## Baby Blues



## Zits



## Conceptis Sudoku

1				4				2
	2		5		7		1	
				6				
	5						7	
7		6		9		1		8
	3						5	
				2				
	8		9		6		2	
6				3				9

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

7/20

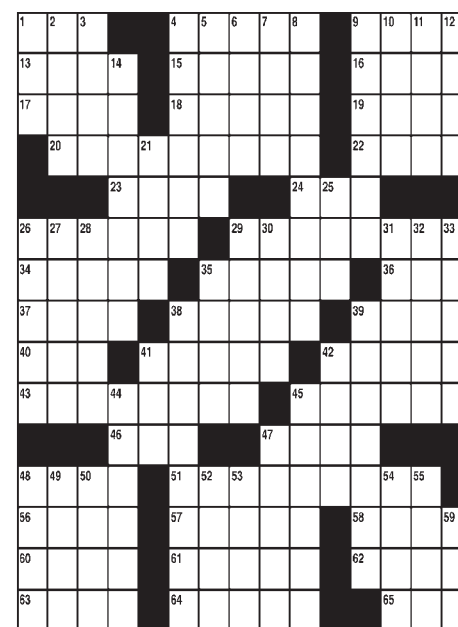
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

4	3	6	8	5	9	7	2	1
1	8	7	2	4	3	5	9	6
9	5	2	7	6	1	3	4	8
6	9	8	5	1	4	2	7	3
5	2	3	9	7	6	8	1	4
7	1	4	3	2	8	6	5	9
3	7	1	4	8	5	9	6	2
8	4	5	6	9	2	1	3	7
2	6	9	1	3	7	4	8	5

## ACROSS

- Major TV network
- On the move
- Betelgeuse, for one
- Cries of disapproval
- Make points
- Big bother
- On \_\_; offered at a reduced price
- Aspen attire
- "Abbey \_\_", Beatles album
- In \_\_; all prepared
- American \_\_; ND's state trees
- Knights' titles
- "Son \_\_ gun!"
- Stand up to
- Salve
- Slammer
- Walked the floor
- Natural
- Coolidge & Ripken
- Like a dull speaker's audience
- Cheese similar to Camembert
- \_\_ dos, tres...
- Word before beans or potatoes
- Piece of garlic
- Kept
- Guffawed
- Approval
- Tropical tree
- Drain problem
- As stated by
- Easy stride
- Racket
- Christmas carol
- Think \_\_; contemplate
- Musical symbols
- Hurricane wind
- Animal enclosures
- Open-eyed
- FDR's successor



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

7/20/19

## DOWN

- Stomach muscles
- Tusked beast
- "Old King \_\_ was a merry old soul..."
- Have high hopes
- MRIs & others
- Skedaddled
- Irritates
- Thought logically
- Creek
- Saw or wrench
- Actor West
- Curtain holders
- Spring & summer
- Slipped \_\_; back problem
- Floral wire service
- Happen
- Flier
- TV trout
- Rowed
- Bumped off
- Mistake
- Unsuspecting
- Durable cloth

## Friday's Puzzle Solved

COW	BLACK	ABLE
ALSO	EERIE	BLOG
LUCK	GETTYSBURG	
LEI	HORSE	NEEDS
	LOONY	PAS
VOLUME	PURSES	
IRATE	MERGE	SAT
VATS	SODAS	SPRY
ATE	BOSSY	CLEAN
ESCORT	GAUCHE	
	LIE	CAPRI
CAGES	PRUNE	AMI
ABOVE	BOARD	SLIT
TUBE	ERNIE	ILLS
STIR	DETER	RYE

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7/20/19

- Jab
- Colorful kerchief
- Pointing the finger at
- Short life sketch
- Common ailment
- Enrages
- Most unusual
- Baffling question
- Clippety--
- Elvis' "Me Tender"
- Unlocked
- Weather forecast
- Point out
- Ham's dad
- Becomes firm
- Allow



# Pocket-sized shark squirts glowing clouds from pockets

**NEW ORLEANS (AP)** — A pocket-sized pocket shark found in the Gulf of Mexico has turned out to be a new species.

And the mysterious pouches that it's named for, up near its front fins? Scientists say they squirt little glowing clouds into the ocean.

Researchers from around the Gulf and in New York have named the species the American pocket shark, or *Mollisquama* (mah-lihskWAH-muh) mississippiensis (MISS-ih-sip-ee-EHN-sis).

It's only the third out of more than 500 known shark species that may squirt luminous liquid, said R. Dean Grubbs, a Florida State University scientist who was not involved in the research. He said the other two are the previously known pocket shark and the taillight shark, which has a similar gland near its tail.

"You have this tiny little bulbous luminescent shark cruising around in the world's oceans and we know nothing about them," said Grubbs, the immediate past president of the American Elasmobranch Society — scientists who study sharks, skates and rays. "It shows us how little we actually know."

Like the only other pocket shark known to science — a 16-inch (400-millimeter) adult female found in the Pacific Ocean off Peru — this 5.6-inch (142-millimeter) newborn male fished out of the Gulf has a pouch next to each front fin. But with this one, scientists figured out what they're for.

The muscular glands are lined with pigment-covered fluorescent projections, indicating they squirt luminous liquid, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ichthyologist Mark Grace and his collaborators wrote in the journal "Zootaxa." The shark also has clusters of light-emitting cells dotted on its belly.

That makes it likely the one caught in 1979 and now in a Russian museum was also a light-squitter with

a bioluminescent abdomen, though four decades pickled in formaldehyde probably have made it impossible to tell, Grace said Friday.

The luminescence might conceal the shark from prey or from predators, he said. Differences between the two specimens include a possible pressure-sensitive organ that the new species could use to detect motion hundreds of feet away and some differences in the teeth, the scientists wrote. The new species may also have as many as 10 fewer vertebrae than the other one, called *Mollisquama parini*.

Grace, who is based in Pascagoula, Mississippi, said the baby shark was among specimens collected during a 2010 survey to find out what Gulf of Mexico sperm whales eat by trawling in an area and at a depth where tagged whales had been feeding.

He had spent three years identifying the collected specimens, and this one, still showing an umbilical scar, was in the last bag he opened. "I've been in science about 40 years. ... I can usually make a pretty good guess" about a marine animal's identity, he said. "I couldn't with this one." Grace said it took a while to convince himself



This undated image provided by National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries Service Southeast Fisheries Science Center shows a 5.5-inch long rare pocket shark. Associated Press

that he had something unusual: "I figured I was doing something wrong."

He called Tulane University scientists saying, "Look, I've got some really unusual deep-water stuff I want to archive in your collection, including a shark I can't identify." Scientists at the American Museum of Natural History in New York and the University of Florida's Florida Museum of Natural History also became collaborators.

A 2015 paper identified the shark as the second of its kind. It took years more, including high-resolution scans in the particle accelerator in Grenoble, France, to get more internal detail, to be sure it was a new species. Another European expert, Julien Claes, did cellular dissection of a bit of the pocket tissue to confirm its function. □



## DOCTOR ON DUTY

### Oranjestad

Hospital 7:00 pm / 10:00pm  
Tel. 527 4000

### San Nicolas

IMSAN 24 Hours  
Tel. 524 8833

## PHARMACY ON DUTY

### Oranjestad:

Sta. Trupial Tel. 583 8560

### San Nicolas:

Seroe Preto Tel. 584 4833

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# Giant Hawaii telescope to focus on big unknowns of universe

By AUDREY McAVOY

Associated Press

**HONOLULU (AP)** — Is there life on planets outside our solar system? How did stars and galaxies form in the earliest years of the universe? How do black holes shape galaxies?

Scientists are expected to explore those and other fundamental questions about the universe when they peer deep into the night sky using a new telescope planned for the summit of Hawaii's tallest mountain.

But the Thirty Meter Telescope is a decade away from being built. And Native Hawaiian protesters have tried to thwart the start of construction by blocking a road to the mountain. They say installing yet another observatory on Mauna Kea's peak would further defile a place they consider sacred.

Activists have fought the \$1.4 billion telescope but the state Supreme Court has ruled it can be built. The latest protests could be the final stand against it. Here's a look at the telescope project and some of the science it's expected to produce.

## WHY WOULD THE TELESCOPE BE MORE POWERFUL?

The large size of the telescope's mirror means it would collect more light, allowing it to see faint, far-away objects such as stars and galaxies dating back as long as 13 billion years.

The telescope gets its name from the size of the mirror, which will be 30 meters (98 feet) in diameter. That's three times as wide as the world's largest existing visible-light telescope. Adaptive optics would correct the blurring effects of the Earth's atmosphere.

The telescope would be more than 200 times more



In this Sunday, July 14, 2019, file photo, a telescope at the summit of Mauna Kea, Hawaii's tallest mountain is viewed.

Associated Press

sensitive than current telescopes and able to resolve objects 12 times better than the Hubble Space Telescope, said Christophe Dumas, head of operations for the Thirty Meter Telescope.

## WHAT RESEARCH WOULD THE TELESCOPE DO?

— Distant planets. During the past 20 years, astronomers have discovered it is common for planets to orbit other stars in the universe. But they don't know much about what those planets — called extrasolar planets or exoplanets — are like. The new telescope would allow scientists to determine whether their at-

mospheres contain water vapor or methane which might indicate the presence of life.

"For the first time in history we will be capable of detecting extraterrestrial life," Dumas said.

Dumas said the new telescope would use special optics to suppress the light of stars. He compared the technique to blocking a bright street light in the distance with your thumb then seeing insects circling in the fainter light below.

— Black holes. Black holes at the center of most galaxies are so dense that nothing, not even light, can escape their gravitational pull.

Andrea Ghez, a University of California, Los Angeles physics and astronomy professor who discovered our galaxy's black hole, said scientists believe black holes play a fundamental role in how galaxies are formed and evolve.

But so far astronomers have

only been able to observe this dynamic in detail in the Milky Way because the next galaxy is 100 times farther away.

The Thirty Meter Telescope would enable scientists to study more galaxies and more black holes in greater detail.

It may also help them understand gravity. Those who doubt the importance should note that GPS-enabled maps on cellphones rely on Einstein's theories about gravity.

"We think of these things as esoteric. But in fact, in the long run, they have profound impacts on our lives," Ghez said.

—Dark matter and dark energy. Humans see only about 4 percent of all matter in the universe, Dumas said. Dark energy makes up about three-quarters and dark matter the rest. Neither can be seen.

"We have no idea what dark matter is and no idea what dark energy is. That's

a big dilemma in today's world," Dumas said.

Because mass deforms space and light, Dumas said the new telescope would make it possible to measure how dark matter influences light.

It could do this by studying light from far-away galaxies. The light would take different paths to the telescope, generating different images of the same object.

## WHY MAUNA KEA?

The weather at the summit of Mauna Kea tends to be ideal for viewing the skies. At nearly 14,000 feet, its peak is normally above the clouds. Being surrounded by the ocean means air flows tend to be smoother and it has the driest atmosphere of any of the candidate sites.

The mountain is already home to 13 other telescopes.

Ghez used the Keck Observatory there to find our galaxy's black hole. Other discoveries credited to those sites over the years include the first images of exoplanets and the detection of 'Oumuamua, the first object from interstellar space, which turned out to be a comet from a distant star system.

## NEXT GENERATION TELESCOPES

Two other giant telescopes are being built in Chile, which also has excellent conditions for astronomy.

The European Extremely Large Telescope will have a primary mirror measuring 39 meters, or 128 feet, in diameter. The Giant Magellan Telescope's mirror will be 24.5 meters, or 80 feet, in diameter.

The Thirty Meter Telescope is the only one expected to be built in the Northern Hemisphere. Because different spots on Earth look out on different parts of the sky, the next-generation ground telescopes will ensure scientists are able to see the entire universe.

The universities and national observatories behind the Thirty Meter Telescope have selected Spain's Canary Islands as a backup site in case they are unable to build in Hawaii. □



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# Labrinth on working with Beyoncé: 'She's a perfectionist'

**NEW YORK (AP)** — British singer-songwriter-producer Labrinth knew what he was in for when he learned he was about to work with Beyoncé: "She's a perfectionist and she's a Virgo, like my wife. Virgos are serious perfectionists."

"I was like, 'I know what I'm in for and I like that,'" he added.

The Grammy-nominated musician, born Timothy McKenzie, worked on the pop icon's newest song, "Spirit," from the new "Lion King" film, where she voices the character Nala. Labrinth said he and co-writer Ilya Salmanzadeh, who has crafted a number of Top 10 hits for Ariana Grande, were working on tracks for the film and hoped they'd come up with something Beyoncé could connect to.

"We kind of sent a rough demo over to her. She heard the song and she loved the vibe. She was like, 'OK, I'm going to get in on it with you.' She started



This June 25, 2019 file photo shows British singer-songwriter-producer Labrinth at the Serpentine Gallery Summer Party in London.

Associated Press

helping us write the rest of the record," Labrinth said in an interview from London on Wednesday. "It was just like, 'This is incredible. It was just one of those moments where it was like, 'OK, I think

God's blessing me now.'" "Spirit" was released last week and appears on two albums: The new "Lion King" soundtrack as well as "The Lion King: The Gift," a Beyoncé-produced album

featuring songs inspired by the film. "The Gift," out Friday, includes collaborations with Jay-Z, Blue Ivy and Kendrick Lamar, as well as African artists such as Tiwa Savage and Burna

Boy.

Labrinth, who has six Top 10 hits in the United Kingdom and has produced for the Weeknd, Rihanna, Ed Sheeran and Nicki Minaj, said he was impressed with Beyoncé's attention to detail and human spirit when working together.

"She cared about everything that was in the record. She cared about what piano we were going to use. Is there enough bass? Not many artists care that much," he said. "Also, just the way she treated us as well. A lot of artists in her position, they can be divas and they can be hard to deal with. Her energy and the messages she sent to us in terms of saying thank you for contributing to 'The Lion King' — she sent really beautiful messages. I was really kind of surprised to see that someone in her position still has that humility. For me that's when I was like, 'She's got all the respect from me in the world that I can give.'" □

# Gina Torres steps into the spotlight with 'Suits' spinoff

By ALICIA RANCILIO  
Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Gina Torres used to wonder about the back story of her "Suits" character, Jessica Pearson. The character was the co-founder and boss of the law firm at the center of the show, but that was about all that was known.

Torres wondered: "'She doesn't have family, she doesn't have people. When are we gonna meet her people? What's gonna happen? When are we gonna get to know more of the woman?'"

Torres' questions are answered in the new spinoff, "Pearson," that premiered Wednesday on USA.

As the show begins, Pearson has been disbarred and can no longer practice law. She relocates from New York to Chicago where she's hired as the unofficial fixer for the mayor, who is married, but involved with the city attorney.

"Pearson" is "not Suits 2.0. It's not Suits Jr.," Torres said. It's



This July 17, 2019 photo shows actress Gina Torres poses for a portrait in New York to promote her "Suits" spin-off series "Pearson."

Associated Press

not a legal series or a procedural and is different in tone from "Suits."

"I like to call it a legacy show because clearly I

come from the world of 'Suits,' but it's a very, very different animal," she said.

"It's not a different Jessica, it's just more of Jessica in a

place of evolving. She's sort of questioning her choices, she's looking forward to what she wants to do and there's still more to accom-

plish."

Torres also serves as an executive producer, a role that has been one of her career goals.

And as Torres embarks on this new chapter, it seems surreal that her former co-star Meghan Markle is now the Duchess of Sussex, one of the most famous women in the world.

"It's weird and at the same time I don't think a lot of people sort of take into account that you're having the exact same experience that everyone else is having," Torres said.

She said the public doesn't want to know about the person she worked with, but, instead, has created a character that is separate from reality. That's the weird part, she said, "the dehumanization of celebrity and fame."

"I often say that Michelle Obama is my best friend in my head (but) I know it's in my head," she said laughing. "I'm clear that's what's happening." □



# 'The Chain' is a mid-life hit for novelist Adrian McKinty

By **HILLEL ITALIE**  
Associated Press

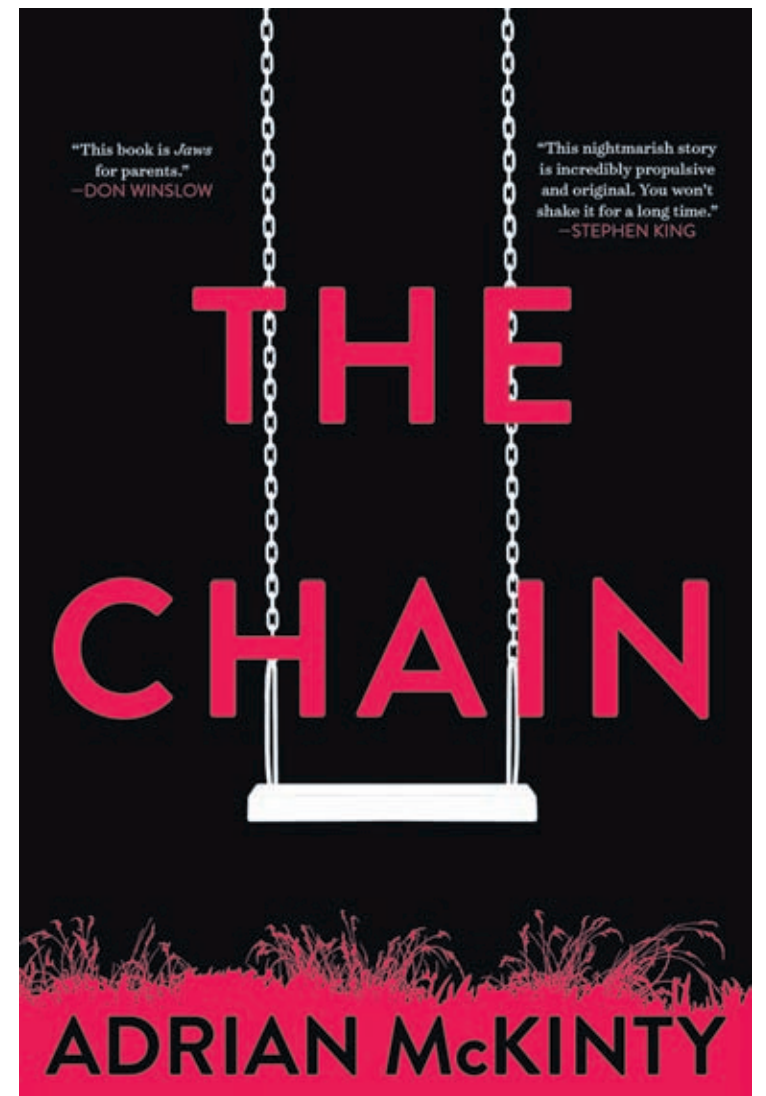
**NEW YORK (AP)** — With his novel "The Chain" headed for publishing best-seller lists and summer packing lists, Adrian McKinty can now laugh as he remembers an old and "failed" novel. "I was in Mexico City, trying to write about Trotsky, the assassination of Trotsky, and it wasn't going well," says McKinty, enjoying a beer during a recent after-

noon interview at a cafe in Manhattan. "It was such a hackneyed premise. There had been any number of books on this. I was struggling to find an original spin and there was nothing." But around the same time, he had an idea for a very different book, what became "The Chain." "While I was in Mexico City I learned about this bizarre kidnapping business where a criminal gang will kidnap

one of your family members," he says. "And while you're raising the ransom to pay off the kidnappers you can arrange to be swapped out for this more vulnerable member of your family. They swap you for your grandmother and meanwhile the rest of the family raises money for your ransom. It's like a business." In "The Chain," a woman learns that her daughter has been abducted and that she can only get her back by kidnapping someone in turn. McKinty's novel, which has just been published and was already in Amazon.com's top 100, arrived with blurbs from Stephen King, Dennis Lehane and many others. The novel was acquired by Little, Brown and Company's Mulholland imprint in a reported six-figure, two-book deal and, for film rights, by Paramount Pictures in a reported seven-figure deal. "The Chain" has been translated into more than 20 languages.

McKinty, 51, is a late bloomer who two years ago was driving an Uber and thinking seriously of giving up on writing. He is new to most readers of "The Chain," but he has been an acclaimed crime author for more than a decade, often drawing upon his native Belfast and the "troubles" of the 1980s. His previous novels include the "Michael Forsythe" trilogy and the "Sean Duffy" series, and have brought him such honors as an Edgar Award and the Ned Kelly Award. His first book, "Dead I May Well Be," was optioned by Universal Pictures. Josh Kendall, executive editor of Mulholland, had been a fan and said reading "The Chain" reduced his brain to "pure experience." "I thought that Adrian McKinty, who'd written many wonderful crime novels full of humor, wit, color and tension, had written the perfect thriller," Kendall told the AP.

The low point of McKinty's career is well documented, by McKinty. The film of "Dead I May Well Be" never happened, his books were



This cover image released by Little, Brown and Co. shows "The Chain," by Adrian McKinty.

Associated Press

selling poorly and McKinty felt himself out of ideas. In a blog post from March 2017, he announced that he, his wife and two daughters had been evicted from their house outside of Melbourne, Australia.

"This is depressing for all of us because it's the house my kids have grown up in," he wrote. "I imagine it's going to be pretty stressful over the next few weeks looking for a new place for us and the kids so I'm going to be taking a blogging break and reassessing things a la my writing career. I think it's probably time for me to go back to working full time until we're a bit more settled."

His comeback was unplanned, and began without his knowledge. His friend Don Winslow, author of "The Cartel" and other novels, begged him not to give up and promised to contact his agent, Shane Salerno, who had helped revive Winslow's own career.

"Adrian's story was my sto-

ry," Winslow told the AP. "I was writing books that were, in all modesty, getting rave reviews and a loyal, but not large readership. When they start calling you a cult writer it's like taking a vow of poverty. So I could really relate to Adrian's experience."

Two weeks later, past midnight in Australia, McKinty's phone rang. It was Salerno, the first of several after-hours calls.

"I promised him that if he would listen to me and trust me that I would change his sales track and career," Salerno says.

But McKinty was exhausted. "I had had a really, really complicated day," he says, "and he's pitching this whole enterprise to me. I said, 'Look Shane, this sounds wonderful. I'm in a different place now. I'm a teacher and I'm an Uber driver.'"

He hung up on him. Salerno called again. McKinty hung up again. Salerno called a third time. "He gives me his best shot," McKinty says. □

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FRI 5:00 | 7:40 | 10:20

SAT 2:20 | 5:00 | 7:40 | 10:20

SUN 2:20 | 5:00 | 7:40

CXC

PBP MON-THU & SUN 2:10 | 4:45 | 7:20

FRI-SAT 2:10 | 4:45 | 7:20 | 10:00

PBP MON-SUN 1:15 | 3:50 | 6:25 | 9:00

SPANISH

MON-THU & SUN 2:50 | 5:25 | 8:00

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SPANISH

PBP MON-SUN 1:50 | 4:20 | 6:50 | 9:20

TORREI HART | OMAR GOODING

**PERFECTLY SINGLE**

PH MON-THU 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:25

FRI 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:25 | 11:45

SAT 2:25 | 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:25 | 11:45

SUN 2:25 | 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:25

TOM HANKS | TIM ALLEN

**Disney-PIXAR TOY STORY 4**

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PBP MON-THU & SUN 1:40 | 4:00 | 6:25 | 8:50

FRI-SAT 1:40 | 4:00 | 6:25 | 8:50 | 11:15

TOM HOLLAND | SAMUEL L. JACKSON

**SPIDER-MAN Far From Home**

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES PG-13

PH MON-FRI 5:50 | 8:40

SAT-SUN 3:00 | 5:50 | 8:40

PBP MON-THU & SUN 2:00 | 4:45 | 7:30

FRI-SAT 2:00 | 4:45 | 7:30 | 10:15

MON-SUN 12:55 | 3:40 | 6:25 | 9:10

DAVE BAUTISTA | KUMAIL NANJIANI

**STUBER**

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES R

PH MON-THU 5:05 | 7:15 | 9:25

FRI 5:05 | 7:15 | 9:25 | 11:35

SAT 2:55 | 5:05 | 7:15 | 9:25 | 11:35

SUN 2:55 | 5:05 | 7:15 | 9:25

KAYA SCODELARIO | BARRY PEPPER

**CRAWL**

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES R

PBP MON-THU & SUN 1:05 | 3:10 | 5:15 | 7:20 | 9:25

FRI-SAT 1:05 | 3:10 | 5:15 | 7:20 | 9:25 | 11:30

VERA FARMIGA | PATRICK WILSON

**ANNABELLE COMES HOME**

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES R

PH MON-SUN 7:05 | 9:35

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# Swiss celebrate once-in-a-generation winegrowers' festival

**VEVEY, Switzerland (AP)** — Swiss residents and tourists alike are partying like they haven't since 1999.

The town of Vevey has kicked off the 12th "Fete des Vignerons," or Wine-makers Festival, the latest installment in a centuries-old tradition of celebrating vineyard workers — which nowadays takes place only once a generation.

Festival organizers have pulled out the stops for the celebration in Vevey, a lakeside town near Switzerland's famous terraced vineyards that are listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site. In 2016, the U.N. cultural agency classified the festival itself as part of the "intangible cultural heritage" of Switzerland.

Among the big-ticket items in the 100 million Swiss franc (\$100 million) budget for the festival is a purpose-built arena — big enough to hold 20,000 people, or more than the entire town's population. Towering over Lake Geneva, the venue



People take part of the "Fete des Vignerons" (winegrowers' festival in French), parade during the official opening parade prior to the first representation and crowning ceremony in Vevey, Switzerland, Thursday, July 18, 2019.

Associated Press

is hosting an Olympics- or Super Bowl-style show with dancers, music and other festivities. As many as a million people are expected in Vevey while the festival runs through Aug. 11.

Above all, it's a colorful,

timeless celebration of Swiss-ness tied up in a festival for winegrowers. People dress in costumes to represent facets of life in the vineyards: insects like ants and grasshoppers; or pests like raisin-pecking starlings;

young lovers frolicking among the vines; droughts and storms that confound winegrowers.

During the kickoff parade on Thursday, kids in butterfly or ladybug costumes marched through town,

while marching band players took a break from the Swiss sunshine with glasses more often filled with cold beer than wine.

This year, organizers are going high-tech with what's billed as the world's largest outdoor LED-lit stage.

"It's been 20 years that we've been waiting for this moment now, and it's crazy!" said Vevey native Fanny Rupp, a 31-year-old physical therapist wearing a wide-brimmed and traditional dress.

With an arm draped over her father's shoulder, they sang a few bars of the festival anthem "Ranz des Vaches" — a nostalgia-rich Alpine song popularized by 18th-century Geneva philosopher Jean-Jacques Rousseau.

Some 5,500 dancers, actors and extras are working at the festival, which features parades, music and lots of alcohol consumption. But the centerpiece is the awards given to winegrowing standouts. □

# Painting, stolen by Nazi soldier, is back in Florence museum

Associated Press

**FLORENCE, Italy (AP)** — A Dutch still-life painting, stolen by retreating Nazis and sent by a German soldier as a present to his wife, came back to a Florence museum on Friday, thanks largely to a relentless campaign by the Uffizi Galleries' director, a German.

The foreign ministers of German and Italy were on hand Friday at Palazzo Pitti, a Renaissance palace that is part of the Uffizi Galleries, for the unveiling of "Flower Vase," a masterpiece by Jan van Huysum, an early 18th-century artist whose exquisitely detailed still-life works were highly sought in his day.

Uffizi director Eike Schmidt earlier this year urged his native country to return the work. He had posted on a gallery wall three labels where the painting had hung before being taken during World War II: "stolen," the labels read in Italian, English and German.

His homeland, Schmidt said



The "Vase of Flowers" painting by Jan van Huysum, is unveiled during a ceremony at the Pitti Palace, part of the Uffizi Galleries, in Florence, Italy, Friday, July 19, 2019.

Associated Press

at the time, had a "moral duty" to return the work.

Italian Foreign Minister Enzo Moavero hailed the "civic and moral courage of a German director of an Italian museum" in pursuing

the painting's return. As did his German counterpart, Moavero hailed the happy ending, saying it was achieved through "real Europeanism, of concrete facts" and not just words.

He revealed to reporters that the painting's return was discussed, among other matters, during bilateral talks between Italy and Germany.

"Flower Vase" is so realistic

it has been likened to a photograph. Van Huysum used a magnifying glass to study his subjects. Ripples are visible in insects' transparent wings, to name just one striking detail on the returned painting.

The painting was acquired in 1824 by a grand duke of the Habsburg-Lorraine dynasty, which followed the Medicis in residing in the palace in Florence.

Shortly after the outbreak of World War II, the palace's artworks were packed for safekeeping into wooden crates and moved from villa to villa. When the Germany army was retreating, the crates were added to other war booty and eventually ended up in Bolzano, an Alpine city near Austria. There the crate containing "Flower Vase" was opened, and in July 1944, a German soldier sent the painting to his wife in Germany.

Minister Moavero quoted the soldier as writing instructions to his wife to "put it in a gilded frame." □



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